

A NEW
HISTORY
OF
ENGLAND,

FROM THE
DESCENT of the ROMANS,
TO THE
DEMISE of his late Majesty, GEORGE II.
AND

CONTINUED down from that PERIOD;

By WILLIAM RIDER, A. B.

Late of *Jesus College, Oxford.*

HISTORY is *philosophy teaching by examples.*

Bolingbroke from Dion. Hall.

VOL. XLVIII.

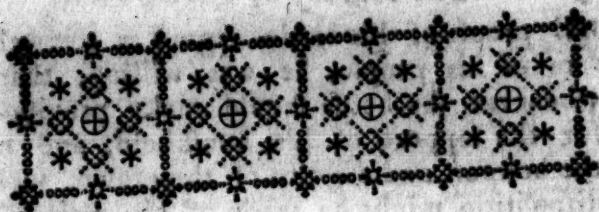
L O N D O N :

Printed for S. CROWDER, in *Pater-noster-Row*, and
J. WILKIE, in *St. Paul's Church-Yard.*

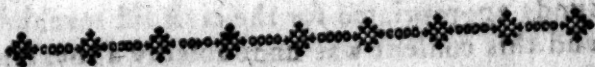
NEW
HISTORY
OF
ENGLAND

FROM THE
PERSPECTIVE OF THE ROMANS
TO THE
Dawn of the Middle Ages, A.D.
Continued down to the present
by William E. Smith, A.B.
Lecturer in English Literature


THE
NEW YORK
PUBLISHED BY
THE NEW YORK
PUBLISHED BY



THE
History of ENGLAND.



The HISTORY of GEORGE III.
continued. A. D. 1761.

 N the beginning of the session, before the committee had taken the civil list into consideration, the king sent a message by the chancellor of the Exchequer, informing the house of commons, that, being ever ready and desirous to give the most substantial

tial proofs of his tender regard to the welfare of his people, he was willing, that, whenever the house should make provision for the support of his household, and of the honour and dignity of the crown, such disposition might be made of his majesty's interest in the hereditary revenues of the crown, as might best conduce to the utility and satisfaction of the public. In consequence of this intimation, the house deliberated on the matter, and the king willingly accepted a certain provision of eight hundred thousand pounds per annum, settled by act of parliament, in lieu of the former funds appropriated for the civil list revenue; and this consent was undoubtedly a royal instance of moderation, considering that this annuity is charged with fifty thousand pounds a year to his mother the princess dowager of Wales, fifteen thousand pounds per annum to the duke of Cumberland, and twelve thousand to the princess Amelia. After these deductions, his majesty receives no more than seven hundred and twenty-three thousand pounds annually, for the support of his public state, the subsistence of all his brothers and sisters, and the maintenance of his royal and encreasing family.

The bills founded on the resolutions of the committee of ways and means were regularly introduced, and passed into laws, according to the usual form, without any opposition or debate: for the whole house seemed to be actuated by the same spirit of loyalty and affection. The navy bill and the mutiny bill underwent the annual discussion, as usual; and the provisions in this last, relating to the trial and punishment for mutiny and desertion of officers and soldiers in the service of the East-India company, were by a new bill extended to the company's settlement of fort Marlborough, and to such other principal settlements, wherein the company might be hereafter impowered to hold courts of judicature. Among other regulations, they protracted the law intituled "An act to continue, for a limited time, the importation of salted beef, pork, and butter from Ireland;" because it was found conducive to the interest of Great-Britain. In consequence of a message from the king acquainting the house, that the South Sea company had intreated his majesty to become their governor, that he had complied with their request, and now desired the commons would consider of proper methods to render his compliance effectual, they passed

6 *The History of* ENGLAND.

a bill for that purpose, and it was enacted into a law.

As the accession of a new king to the throne of Great-Britain has been generally distinguished by acts of grace in favour of debtors and delinquents, petitions were now presented to the house of commons by persons confined for debt in the different goals of London, the borough of Southwark, and other parts of the kingdom, describing their situation, and imploring relief from the legislature. An act in behalf of these objects had generally passed in the first session of every parliament; but they were now encouraged to hope for immediate relief, not only from the elevation and character of the new sovereign, but also from these other considerations; that all the prisons in the kingdom were crowded; and many thousands of useful subjects lost to their country, at a time when the people were thinned by a cruel sanguinary war; and many branches of manufacture abandoned for want of labourers.

To the cries of these captives, the legislature lent a favourable ear; and a bill in their behalf was brought into the house of commons. While they deliberated on this measure, an humble remonstrance was offered by the bankrupts confined within the prison

prison of the King's Bench, representing the hardships to which they were exposed from a clause in the bills now depending, by which those unfortunate bankrupts, who had not obtained their certificates, would be excluded from the benefit of the act; and expressing their hope, that, as the legislature had hitherto judged other insolvents to be proper objects of favour, they should be no longer debarred the benefit of that mercy which their fellow-sufferers enjoyed. Little regard, however, was paid to this request, from an apprehension, that, had these bankrupts fairly conformed to the statute, their creditors would not have refused to grant them a certificate. The bill, which was now passed into an act for the relief of prisoners, contained a clause which indeed operates as a perpetual indulgence.*

It

* By the present insolvent act, no prisoner can take the benefit of it, that was not actually in custody before the 25th of October last; but those who were arrested before the said 25th of October, and surrendered themselves before the 28th of Nov. last, may receive the benefit of this: also debtors who were beyond the seas on the same 25th of October, surrendering themselves may have the same benefit. All persons discharged by this act, are liable to be arrested for debts contracted before the 25th of October. Bankrupts not obtaining their certificates in due time, are

ex-

8. *The History of* ENGLAND.

It imported, that as many persons too often choose rather to continue in prison, and spend their substance there, than discover and deliver up to their creditors their estates or effects, towards satisfying their just debts; the creditors may compel any prisoner committed, or who shall hereafter be committed, and charged in execution, to appear at the quarter-sessions, with the copy of his detainer,

excluded in this act. All attorneys embezzling their clients money are also excluded. The future effects and estates of prisoners discharged, are liable to their creditors. Debtors to the crown, and prisoners who owe above 100*l.* to one person, unless the creditors consent, are excluded in this act; and creditors opposing the prisoner's discharge, to allow him 3*s.* 6*d.* per week; on non-payment to be discharged. All persons entitled to the benefit of this act, are to obtain their discharges before the 31*st* of March, 1763. Creditors may compel any prisoner, charged in execution, to appear at the quarter session, with the copy of his detainer, and deliver in a schedule of his estate, and on his subscribing the same, and making a discovery of his estate, he is to be discharged; on refusing to do, or concealing to the amount of 20*l.* suffers as a felon. Prisoners upon process out of the courts of conscience are included in this act; and all who took the benefit of the act 28*th* George II. to be excluded. Mariners, and those who have been in the sea and land service are upon their discharge, if under fifty years of age, and approved of, to serve during the present war; and if they desert, may be arrested and imprisoned at the suit of their creditors.

tainer, and deliver, upon oath, a just schedule of his estate : that a prisoner, subscribing the schedule, and making a discovery of his estate, shall be discharged at the general or quarter sessions, under this act : and that on his refusal so to do, or concealing to the amount of twenty pounds, he shall suffer as a felon.

This compulsive clause was attended with a consequence, which, in all probability, the legislature did not foresee. Great numbers of tradesmen, and people in the lower classes of life, and even many who had moved in a higher sphere, were said to have laid hold on this opportunity of disencumbering themselves from their debts, which might have been honestly paid by a proper exertion of industry and temperance. Every person, desirous of reaping the benefit of the act, prevailed upon some relation or friend to perform the part of compelling creditor. The public complained that the goals about London were crowded with a succession of these voluntary captives ; and that a great number of honest men were ruined by this indulgence shewn to their debtors by the clemency of parliament.

Certain it is, the common council of the city of London, in their instructions to the
re-

10 . *The History of* ENGLAND.

representatives in the new parliament, recommended to them to exert their utmost endeavours to procure the repeal of this compulsive clause, as a manifest grievance to the public. That it is an encouragement to idleness and profligacy, and a strong temptation to fraud, in the minds of the vulgar, are truths which must undoubtedly be admitted. At the same time it ought to be considered, that the greatest national advantage may be productive of some inconvenience; that the advantage flowing from this clause is great and manifest, as it delivers many citizens from the worst kind of slavery, prevents great numbers from abandoning their country, and reunites to the community many useful members, of whose talents and industry, especially in time of war, it stands so much in need.

A bill was framed, and passed into a law, for extending to hog's lard and grease the late act to discontinue, for a limited time, the duties payable upon tallow imported from Ireland. Measures were likewise taken for continuing the act "for the better securing and encouraging the trade of his majesty's sugar-colonies in America," which was near expiring. A bill was prepared, and passed, enabling the king to make leases and copies of offices, lands and hereditaments,

ditaments, parcel of his dutchy of Cornwall, or annexed to the same, and for other purposes therein mentioned. Another was established for preventing frauds committed by persons navigating small boats, with provisions and refreshments, upon the river Thames. This measure was the effect of a petition, representing the numerous thefts and robberies that were committed upon the river to the great loss and detriment of merchants, owners of ships, vessels, and other crafts belonging to the port of London, as well as to the inhabitants and occupiers of wharfs, yards, and tenements adjoining to the river. The sanction of the legislature was also given to a law intituled, "An act to amend, and render more effectual, a former act for the further qualification of justices of the peace," so far as it obliged those, who had already taken and subscribed the qualification oath, to take and subscribe the same again at the general or quarter session of the peace for the county, riding, or division, for which they intend to act in quality of justices.

Earl Marischal of Scotland, who had so lately obtained his pardon, was now indulged with an additional favour from the crown. A small ballance on the purchase of one of his family estates, which had been
for-

forfeited in the year 1716, remaining still unpaid to the government by the trustees of the purchaser, the earl presented a petition to the house of commons, expressing his hope that his present majesty would, in compassion to the sufferings of the petitioner, and the distresses of his family, be graciously pleased to grant unto him, for his present support, what remained due to the crown of the purchase money, provided his majesty was enabled so to do by the authority of parliament: he therefore prayed, that leave might be given to bring in a bill for this purpose. The king reinforced this petition with a gracious message, delivered to the house by the chancellor of the Exchequer. The request was granted; and the bill being prepared, soon passed into a law. In consequence of this favour, the earl, in his old age, recovered about six thousand pounds of his original fortune, which was valued at above fifty thousand pounds when he suffered the attainder: but this wretched pittance being insufficient to maintain him in his own country, he found himself obliged to reside abroad; so that he seemed to reap very little comfort from the pardon which he had been so solicitous to obtain.

In

In the month of January the king sent a message to the commons, importing, that his majesty being sensible of the zeal and vigour with which his faithful subjects in North America had exerted themselves, in defence of his just rights and possessions, recommended it to the house to take their services into consideration, and enable his majesty to give them a proper recompence for the expence incurred by the respective provinces in levying, cloathing, and maintaining the troops they had raised, according as the active vigour and strenuous efforts of the respective provinces should appear to merit. This intimation was referred to the committee of supply, and that resolution taken in favour of the American provinces which we have mentioned before among the grants of the year. The royal message was likewise procured in favour of the East-India company, for enabling them to defray the expence of a military force in India; and they were accordingly gratified with the sum already specified under that article. The sums which the commons granted for the support of the Foundling-hospital, and the further reparation of London-bridge, were the result of accurate inquiry. The parliament passed several private bills for the naturalization of foreigners; and a good

14 *The History of ENGLAND.*

number relating to the improvement of highways, as well as of wastes or commons.

In the beginning of March the king made a proposal for securing the independency of the judges, which could not fail to inspire the subject with the most favourable opinion of his royal candour and moderation. In a speech from the throne he informed both houses of parliament, that, upon granting new commissions to the judges, the present state of their offices fell naturally under consideration: that, notwithstanding the act passed in the reign of king William III. for settling the succession to the crown, by which act the commissions of the judges were continued in force during their good behaviour, yet their offices had determined at the demise of the crown, or in six months after that event, as often as it had happened: that as he looked upon the independency and uprightness of the judges as essential to the impartial administration of justice, one of the best securities to the rights and liberties of his subjects, as well as conducive to the honour of the crown, he recommended this interesting object to the consideration of parliament, in order that such further provision might be made for securing the judges in the enjoyment of their offices

offices during their good behaviour, notwithstanding any such demise, as should be most expedient: that he hoped the commons would enable him to grant, and establish upon the judges, such salaries as he should think proper, so as to be absolutely secured to them during the continuance of their commissions: and that he could not let slip the present opportunity of thanking both houses for the great unanimity and application with which they had hitherto carried on the public business; exhorting them to proceed with the same good disposition, and with such dispatch, that this session might be brought to a happy conclusion.

The speech was received with that universal applause, which it so well deserved. The commons unanimously resolved to display their gratitude in an address to the throne. They acknowledged the most lively sense of his majesty's attention to an object so interesting to his people. They assured him, that his faithful commons saw, with joy and veneration, the warm regard and concern which animated his royal breast for the security of the religion, laws, liberties, and properties of his subjects: that the house would immediately proceed upon the important work recommended by his majesty with such tender care of his people;

and would enable him to establish the salaries of the judges in such a permanent manner, that they might be enjoyed during the continuance of their commissions. They forthwith began to deliberate upon this subject; and their resolutions terminated in a law, enacting, among other particulars, That such part of the salaries of the judges as was before payable out of the yearly sums granted for the support of the king's household, and of the honour and dignity of the crown should, after the demise of his present majesty, be charged upon and payable out of all or any such duties or revenues, granted for the use of the civil government, as should subsist after the demise of his majesty, or of any of his heirs and successors. Thus the individuals, intrusted with the administration of the laws, were effectually emancipated from the power of the prerogative, and of all undue influence.

It was likewise in the beginning of March that the chancellor of the Exchequer communicated a message from the king to the commons, conceived in the following terms: "His majesty, relying on the known zeal and affection of his faithful commons, and considering that in this critical conjuncture, emergencies may arise, which may be of the utmost importance, and

and be attended with the most pernicious consequences, if proper means should not be immediately applied to prevent or defeat them; is desirous that this house will enable him to defray any extraordinary expences of the war, incurred, or to be incurred, for the service of the year 1761; and to take all such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprizes or designs of his enemies, and as the exigency of affairs may require." This message was immediately referred to the consideration of the committee of supply; and his majesty was indulged with one million, upon account, as we have already mentioned.

Mr. Onslow, who had so long filled the speaker's chair with equal candour and capacity, having signified his intention to retire from business, in consequence of age, infirmities, and other motives of a private nature, the commons determined to bestow upon him some signal marks of their esteem and regard. They accordingly resolved, that the thanks of the house should be given to Mr. Speaker, for his constant and unwearied attendance in the chair, during the course of above thirty-three years, in five successive parliaments; for the unshaken integrity and steady impartiality of his conduct there; and for the indefatigable pains

he had, with uncommon abilities, constantly taken to promote the honour and dignity of parliament, and to preserve inviolable the rights and privileges of the commons of Great Britain. The venerable patriot was so much affected by this proof of their love and esteem, that he could not answer but in broken sentences, bursting unconnectedly from a heart that swelled too big for easy utterance*. For that reason his speech was the more

* “ I was never under so great a difficulty in my life to know what to say in this place as I am at present—Indeed it is almost too much for me.—I can stand against misfortunes and distresses: I have stood against misfortunes and distresses; and may do so again; but I am not able to stand this overflow of good will and honour to me. It overpowers me; and had I all the strength of language, I could never express the full sentiments of my heart upon this occasion, of thanks and gratitude. If I have been happy enough to perform any services here, that are acceptable to the house, I am sure I now receive the noblest reward for them; the noblest that any man can receive for any merit, far superior, in my estimation, to all the other emoluments of this world. I owe every thing to this house; I not only owe to this house, that I am in this place, but that I have had their constant support in it; and to their good will and assistance, their tenderness and indulgence towards me in my errors, it is, that I have been able to perform my duty here to any degree of approbation: thanks therefore
are

more agreeable to the house, who forthwith resolved, that thanks should be given to Mr. Speaker for what he had now said ; that his answer should be printed in the votes of the day : that an address should be presented to the king, humbly to beseech his majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to confer some signal mark of his royal favour upon the right honourable Arthur Onslow, Esq ; for his great and eminent services performed to his country, for the space of thirty-three years

are not so much due to me for these services, as to the house itself who made them to be services in me.

“ When I began my duty here, I set out with a resolution, and promise to the house, to be impartial in every thing, and to shew respect to every body. The first I know I have done ; it is the only merit I can assume : If I have failed in the other it was unwillingly, it was inadvertently ; and I ask their pardon, most sincerely, to whomsoever it may have happened. I can truly say, the giving satisfaction to all has been my constant aim, my study and my pride.

“ And now, Sirs, I am to take my last leave of you. It is, I confess, with regret, because the being within these walls has ever been the chief pleasure of my life : but my advanced age and infirmities, and some other reasons, call for retirement and obscurity. There I shall spend the remainder of my days ; and shall only have power to hope and to pray, and my hopes and prayers, my daily prayer, will be, for the continuance of the constitution in general, and that the freedom, the dignity, and authority of this house may be perpetual.”

years and upwards, during which he had, with such distinguished ability and integrity, presided in the chair; and to assure his majesty, that whatever expence he should think proper to be incurred upon that account, the house would make it good. This application was very agreeable to the king's own generous disposition. He expressed a proper sense of the speaker's great services and unblemished character; and that gentleman was gratified with an annual pension of three thousand pounds, payable out of his majesty's treasure at the Exchequer, for his own life and that of his son. All the public business being dispatched, and all the bills having received the royal sanction, the king repaired to the house of lords on the nineteenth day of March, and closed the session with the following speech from the throne.

“ My lords and gentlemen,

“ I cannot put an end to this session, without declaring my entire satisfaction in your proceedings during the course of it. The zeal you have shewn for the honour of my crown, as well as for my true interest, and that of your country, which are ever the same, is the clearest demonstration of that duty and affection to my person and government,

of

of which you so unanimously assured me at your first meeting. Nothing could so much add to the pleasure, which these considerations afford me, as that I am now able to acquaint you of the great progress made of late by the combined army in Germany, under the command of prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. I formerly told you, that the nature of the war, in those parts, had kept the campaign there still depending; and it now appears, to the surprize of my enemies, that the superior ability, and indefatigable activity and spirit of my officers and troops, have greatly profited of this perseverance, notwithstanding all the difficulties arising from the season.

“By your assistance, I have taken the best care to recruit that army, in an effectual manner, and have made such a disposition of my fleet, for the next summer, as may most advantageously defend my kingdoms, protect the commerce of my subjects, maintain and extend our possessions and acquisitions, and annoy the enemy.

“As in all my measures I have nothing in view but the security and felicity of my dominions, the support of my allies, and the restoring of the public tranquillity, I trust in the divine Providence, to give a happy issue to our further operations.

“Gen-
eral

“ Gentlemen of the house of commons,

“ I cannot sufficiently thank you for your unanimity and dispatch, in providing for the expences of my civil government, and the honour and dignity of the crown : and I think myself as much obliged to you, for the prudent use, which, in framing that provision, you have made of my consent to leave my own hereditary revenues to such disposition of parliament, as might best conduce to the utility and satisfaction of the public, as for what more immediately concerns myself.

“ In making my acknowledgements for the large and extensive supplies, which you have granted me this session, I am at a loss whether most to applaud your cheerfulness in giving, or your wisdom in proportioning them to the extraordinary occasions of the public, notwithstanding those uncommon burthens, which I heartily regret. No care shall be wanting on my part, to see them duly applied to the national ends for which you intended them.”

“ My lords and gentlemen,

“ The expiration of this parliament now drawing very near, I will forthwith
give

give the necessary orders for calling a new one. But I cannot take my leave of you, without returning my thanks for the many eminent proofs you have given of your fidelity and affection to my family and government, and of your zeal for this happy and excellent constitution.

“ During this parliament, the flame of war was kindled by the injurious encroachments and usurpations of our enemies; and therefore it became just and necessary on our part. In the prosecution of it you have given such support to my royal grandfather and myself, and such assistance to our allies, as have manifested your publick-spirited concern for the honour of the nation, and the maintenance of its undoubted rights and possessions, and been attended with glorious successes, and great acquisitions, in various parts of the world; particularly in the entire reduction of Canada, a conquest of the utmost importance to the security of our colonies in North-America, and to the extension of the commerce and navigation of my subjects.

“ May God Almighty grant continuance to these successes! The use which I purpose to make of them is, to secure and promote the welfare of my kingdoms, and to carry on the war with vigour, in order to procure
to

them the blessings of peace on safe and honourable conditions for me and my allies; to which I have been always ready to hearken.

“ Firm in these resolutions, I do with entire confidence, rely on the good dispositions of my faithful subjects in the choice of their representatives; and I make no doubt but they will thereby demonstrate the sincerity of those assurances, which have been so cordially and universally given me in the loyal, affectionate, and unanimous addresses of my people.” This speech being finished, the king dissolved the present parliament, and issued orders for calling a new one.

The new tax laid upon beer excited loud clamours among the class of labouring people, especially in the metropolis, where some few publicans began to raise the price, in consequence of this imposition: but, as they did not act in concert, those houses, in which the attempt was made, were immediately abandoned by their customers. Menacing letters and intimations were sent to some individuals, supposed to have advised the new duty. The streets resounded with the noise of vulgar clamour and discontent; nor was it till after some time, and many

ex-

experiments, that the price of strong beer could be actually raised to the consumer.

The committee appointed to prepare an estimate of the pay of the militia of England, when unembodied, having duly deliberated on this subject, which was also recommended to them by a message from the throne, agreed, at length, to certain resolutions; and these constituted the basis of a bill, which passed into a law, for applying the money granted in this session of parliament towards defraying the charge of the pay of the militia of that part of Great-Britain called England, when unembodied, for one year, commencing at the twenty-fifth day of March*.

VOL. XLVIII.

C

The

* By this new militia law it is enacted, that within ten days after that his majesty's lieutenant, or, in his absence, three deputy lieutenants of any county, &c. where pay has not been issued for the militia, shall have certified to the commissioners of the treasury, that three-fifths of the number of private men of any regiment, battalion, or independant company of such county, &c. have been chosen and enrolled; and that the like proportion of commission officers have been appointed, and have taken out their commissions, and entered their qualifications, as is by law required; they shall also certify the same to the receiver, or receivers-general of the land-tax for such county, &c. and shall also certify to such receivers general, when any regiment, battalion, or independant company, that shall have been embodied and called out into actual service, shall be disembodied and return home by order of their com-

The establishment of a militia, though at first projected in compliance with the earnest

re

commanding officers, and thereby be no longer intitled to full pay; and the receivers general upon receipt of any such certificate, shall issue the whole sums required for the several uses herein aforementioned, viz. For the pay of the said militia, for four months in advance, from the date of such certificate, at the rate of 6s. a day for each adjutant, where an adjutant is by this act allowed; 1s. a day for each sergeant, with the addition of 2s 6d. a week for each sergeant-major, where a sergeant-major is allowed; 6d. a day for each drummer, with the addition of 6d. a day for each drum-major, where a drum-major is allowed; 1s. for each private militia man, with the addition of 6d. to each corporal, for every day in which such private militia man or corporal shall be respectively employed in the militia; 2s. for each private militia-man, with the addition of 1s. to each corporal, for his march, on the Monday and Saturday in Whitsun week, to and from the place of general exercise; and also 5d. a month for each private man and drummer for defraying the contingent expences of each regiment, battalion, or independent company; half a year's salary for the clerk of each regiment, or battalion, at the rate of 50l. a year; and for the allowances to the clerk of the general meetings, at the rate of 5l. 5s. for each meeting; and to the clerks of the sub-division meetings, at the rate of 1l. 1s. for each meeting; and also for the cloathing the militia for such county, &c. where the militia hath not already been cloathed, at the rate of 1l. 10s. for each private man, 2l. for each drummer, and 3l. 10s. for each sergeant. All which issues or payments the receivers-general shall make, without any new or other certificate for that purpose."

request of the people, was not, however, entirely accomplished, without exciting some dangerous commotions. As this kind of troops had already served the term of three years, prescribed by law, it was necessary to ballot for a succession of men; and in the month of March the justices of the peace in the county of Northumberland were assembled at Hexham for this purpose. The common people being determined to oppose this regulation, which they considered as an intolerable grievance, assembled to the number of five thousand of both sexes, and of all ages, some of them armed with clubs, and some of them with firearms. The justices, apprehensive of some such disorder, had procured a battalion of the Yorkshire militia for their guard, and these were drawn up in the market-place. The populace being joined by a body of desperate keelmen from Newcastle, began to insult the guard with reproaches, missiles, and even with blows, which the militia for some time bore with all the patience that could be imagined. The riot act was read, and the people were exhorted to retire to their respective habitations. But instead of complying with this advice, they became more untractable. Encouraged by the forbearance of the militia, and possessed with a

28 *The History of ENGLAND.*

notion that they would not commit hostilities, they proceeded from one act of outrage to another; assaulted them as they stood arranged in order of battle, and killed an officer and two private men. Thus exasperated, the militia poured in upon them a regular discharge, by which forty-five were killed upon the spot, and three hundred miserably wounded. The survivors immediately betook themselves to flight, and many dropped down upon the road in their retreat. The most lamentable part of this disaster was a circumstance which attends all such unfortunate occasions: some hapless women and children, drawn thither by curiosity, or the more laudable motive of persuading their husbands, parents, or kinsmen to retire, were confounded and perished in the undistinguishing vengeance of the day. Some of the rioters, being apprehended, were tried for high treason, convicted, condemned, and executed for examples.

The spirit of murder and assassination still continued to prevail in different parts of the kingdom. Women attempted the lives of their husbands, and husbands embroiled their hands in the blood of their wives. As the last year was distinguished by an atrocious murder committed in London by a foreigner, so the present exhibited an instance

stance of the same kind, perpetrated by another stranger in the capital, though attended with much more savage and horrible circumstances. One Theodore Gardelle, a Swiss painter, being provoked by some trivial injury, layed violent hands on Mrs. King, in whose house he lodged, near Leicester square, and deprived her of life in her own apartment. The rage of passion, which prompted him to this excess, was succeeded by a transport of terror, which hurried him into such measures for his own preservation, as cannot fail to shock the humane and tender reader. He concealed what had passed by locking the apartment where the body lay, and by dismissing the maid servant, who happened to be absent when the murder was committed. He had sent her upon some errand to a different part of the town, as if the murder had been a premeditated scheme: when she returned, he told her Mrs. King was gone suddenly to the country, and had directed him to dismiss her from her service. He accordingly payed her the wages that were due to her, in consequence of which she retired.

Being now in possession of the house, he passed the night alone in his own apartment. Next morning he descended to the chamber where the body of the unhappy woman lay,

separated the head, and even dissected it with the most gloomy deliberation. This he consumed by fire: the bowels he took out, and buried in the soil of the privy. He then dismembered the body, and destroyed the limbs with a fire made of green wood, that the smell of flesh might not alarm the neighbours. He divided the trunk in small pieces, and carrying part of them in a sack, threw them into the river. This was a work of time, which he seemed to brood over with a kind of horrid enjoyment. In the intervals of his labour, he solaced himself with the conversation of a prostitute, who lay with him in the house, and from whose side he rose early in the morning in order to finish his dreadful task.

His guilt could not be long concealed. The sudden disappearance of Mrs. King, and the distracted behaviour of the assassin, created suspicion. He found it necessary to employ an occasional domestic, who perceived signs of blood. The servant, whom he had dismissed, exerted herself in his detection; a warrant was granted for apprehending Gardelle; and search being made in the house, parcels of the body were found. The murderer, being brought to trial, was convicted on the fullest evidence, and executed in the open street, not far
from

from the place where the crime was committed. He confessed the murder; but denied that it was premeditated. He declared that Mrs. King had first reproached, and then struck him; that in pushing her from him, he was the occasion of her falling backwards; that her head pitching on the side of a bed, she seemed to have received a fracture in the skull; that terrified by her cries, which were loud and continued, he, in despair, stabbed her in the neck with an ivory bodkin, which happened to lie on her toilet, and finished the tragedy by stifling her with the bedcloaths; that the measures he took in the sequel were prompted by the terrors of detection: that the few days which intervened between the murder and the discovery, he passed in a continual perturbation of mind, a kind of hideous dream of horror, from which he waked to penitence and resignation.

With regard to public affairs, the accession of his present majesty was attended with no revolution of any consequence, either in the church, the state, or the army. The metropolitan see of Canterbury was still possessed by Secker, alike distinguished for his piety and learning. The office of lord high chancellor was conferred upon lord Henley, baron Grange, who had given manifold

proofs

proofs of his independent spirit, knowledge, and integrity. Lord Mansfield maintained his seat on the King's Bench, and judge Willes in the Common Pleas. The ministry and cabinet council underwent no material alteration, except in the accession of the earl of Bute, who succeeded the earl of Holderness as secretary of state for the northern department, and was supposed to stand with Mr. Pitt, the other secretary, as joint pilot at the helm of administration. The duke of Newcastle still directed the treasury; earl Granville presided at the council; and lord Anson at the board of admiralty. Earl Temple kept the privy seal; and Mr. Legge acted as chancellor of the Exchequer, though in a little time he was dismissed from that employment. Mr. Charles Townshend being appointed secretary at war, soon proved by his conduct the fallacy of that maxim which holds genius inconsistent with industry; and performed every part of this office with such accuracy and expedition, as had never before appeared in that scene of transaction. The lucrative post of paymaster remained with Mr. Henry Fox, who, though not very acceptable to either party, had, by mere superiority of parts, been able to maintain his footing with both.

The

The management of the king's household devolved upon noblemen of unblemished characters. The chamberlain's wand was delivered to the duke of Devonshire, universal beloved for his generosity and sweetness of disposition. The duke of Rutland, so distinguished for his benevolence, was created master of the horse; and the office of lord steward was bestowed upon earl Talbot, who, with equal spirit and perseverance, reformed many enormous abuses in the oeconomy of the king's household. The earl of Halifax was nominated lord lieutenant of Ireland. Divers young noblemen were appointed lords of the king's bed-chamber*; and a very

* The earl of Kildare was created a marquis of the kingdom of Ireland. Lord Delaware was promoted to the rank of earl of Cantalupe. The honourable John Spencer, first cousin to the duke of Marlborough, was enobled by the title of baron Spencer of Althorp in the county of Northampton, and viscount Spencer. George Doddington, was made lord Melcomb, baron of Melcomb-Regis in the county of Dorset. Sir Thomas Robinson was created baron Grantham in Lincolnshire; Sir Nathaniel Curzon, baron Scarsdale in the county of Derby, and Sir William Irby, lord Boston, baron of Boston in the county of Lincoln. Mary countess of Bute was vested with the title of baroness Mountstuart, of Wortley in the county of York; the title of baron to devolve to her lawful issue male by John earl of Bute.

Archi-

34 *The History of* ENGLAND.

very few alterations made in places of trust and profit: but, in general, all the members of the great offices, and all the commissioners of the revenue, throughout the three kingdoms, were continued in their respective employments.

The chief command of the army in Great-Britain was enjoyed by the lord viscount Ligonier. The German army in Westphalia, payed by England, remained under the auspices of prince Ferdinand of Brunswick; the marquis of Granby commanded the British forces on that service; and the direction of the troops in America was still intrusted to Sir Jeffery Amherst. Neither was any material change produced in the disposition of the different squadrons which composed the navy of Great Britain. Admiral Holborne's flag continued flying at Spithead. Sir Edward Hawke and Sir Charles Hardy were stationed in the bay of Quiberon. Sir Charles Saunders kept the sea in the Mediterranean. The rear-admirals Stevens and Cornish, commanded one
squa-

Archibald duke of Argyle dying in April, the title and estate devolved on his cousin lieut. general John Campbell. The marquis of Tweeddale was constituted justice general of Scotland, in the room of the deceased duke; whose post of keeper of the seal for Scotland was given to Charles duke of Queensberry.

squadron in the East Indies; rear-admiral Holmes another at Jamaica; Sir James Douglas a third at the Leeward Islands; lord Colvil a fourth at Halifax in Nova-Scotia. These were stationary; but other squadrons were equipped occasionally, under different commanders; besides the single ships that cruised in and about the Channel, and those that were stationed to protect the trade of Great-Britain in different parts of the world.

As a rage for public spectacles seems to be the ruling passion of the English, the ceremony of the coronation, which was now approaching, could not fail to engage their attention in the strongest manner. A proclamation was issued for celebrating this solemnity in the month of September; so that the curiosity of weak minds was fostered, during the whole summer, and the thoughts of the people seemed to center entirely in this gaudy exhibition: such preparations were made, and such eagerness was expressed by persons of all ranks, that, one would have imagined, the whole nation was on the brink of lunacy.

The king, ever attentive to the great purposes of his elevation, and desirous of giving all possible permanency to the present happy establishment, resolved to choose a
con-

confort, whose participation might sweeten the cares of government, and whose virtues should make his private happiness coincide with the satisfaction of his people. Struck with the character of the princess Charlotta-Sophia, princess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz*, he privately employed persons, in whom he could confide, to ascertain the report of her engaging qualifications; and being fully convinced of her personal attractions, her amiable disposition, and superior understanding, he made a formal demand of her in marriage. The proposal of such an illustrious alliance could not but be acceptable to the court of Mecklenburg; and the princess

* The dutchy of Mecklenburg lies between Lunenburg and the Baltick, and is neither rich nor extensive. The dukes are said to be descended from the kings of the Vandals. The people were converted to the Christian religion in the twelfth century, and at present profess the Lutheran persuasion. The duke of Mecklenburg-Swerin, being the eldest branch, possesses a yearly revenue amounting to about forty thousand pounds. The duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz does not receive above twenty thousand pounds a year; but he has a voice in the diet of the empire. The princess Charlotta-Sophia, who was then in the seventeenth year of her age, is sister to the last mentioned prince, born of Elizabeth, daughter of Ernest-Frederick, duke of Saxe Hildburghausen.

cess herself was not insensible to the extraordinary accomplishments of the young monarch, who had thus distinguished her by his affection and esteem. .

On the eighth of July, the members of the privy council being assembled to a very considerable number, the king acquainted them in a formal speech, that, "having nothing so much at heart as to procure the welfare and happiness of his people, and to render the same stable and permanent to posterity, he had, ever since his accession to the throne, turned his thoughts towards the choice of a princess for his consort; and now, with great satisfaction, acquainted them, that, after the fullest information, and mature deliberation, he had come to a resolution to demand in marriage the princess Charlotta of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; a princess distinguished by every eminent virtue, and amiable endowment; whose illustrious line had constantly shewn the firmest zeal for the Protestant religion, and a particular attachment to his family: that he had judged it proper to communicate to them these his intentions, that they might be fully apprized of a matter so highly important to him and to his kingdoms, and

VOL. XLVIII.

D

which

38 *The History of* ENGLAND.

which he persuaded himself would be most acceptable to all his loving subjects.”*

This

* His majesty is said to have received the first intimation of the extraordinary qualities of the princess from the following letter, which she wrote to the king of Prussia on his entering the territories of her cousin, the duke of Mecklenburg Swerin, and which that monarch sent over to his late majesty as a prodigy of patriotism and good sense in so young a princess.

“ May it please your majesty,

“ I am at a loss whether I shall congratulate or condole with you on your late victory; since the same success, that crowns you with laurels, has overspread the country of Mecklenburg with desolation. I know, Sire, that it seems unbecoming my sex, in this age of vicious refinement, to feel for one's country, to lament the horrors of war, or wish for the return of peace. I know you may think it more properly my province to study the arts of pleasing, or to turn my thoughts to subjects of a more domestic nature; but however unbecoming it may be in me, I cannot resist the desire of interceding for this unhappy people.

It was but a very few years ago that this territory wore the most pleasing appearance. The country was cultivated, the peasants looked chearful, and the towns abounded with riches and festivity. What an alteration at present from such a charming scene! I am not expert at description, nor can my fancy add any horrors to the picture; but, sure, even conquerors themselves would weep at the hideous prospect now before me. The whole country, my dear country, lies one fright-

This declaration was so agreeable to the council, that they unanimously requested it might be made publick for the satisfaction of the nation in general. The earl of Harcourt was appointed ambassador-plenipotentiary to the court of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, to demand the princess, and sign the contract of marriage; and the royal yachts were prepared, under convoy of a gallant

D 2

fqua-

frightful waste, presenting only objects to excite terror, pity, and despair. The business of the husbandman and the shepherd is quite discontinued; the husbandman and the shepherd are become soldiers themselves, and help to ravage the soil they formerly occupied. The towns are inhabited only by old men, women, and children; perhaps here and there a warrior, by wounds or loss of limbs, rendered unfit for service, left at his door; his little children hang round him, ask an history of every wound, and grow themselves soldiers, before they find strength for the field. But this were nothing, did we not feel the alternate insolence of either army, as it happens to advance or retreat. It is impossible to express the confusion, which even those, who call themselves our friends, excite. Even those, from whom we might expect redress, oppress us with new calamities. From your justice therefore it is that we hope relief; to you even children and women may complain, whose humanity stoops to the meanest petition, and whose power is capable of redressing the greatest injustice."

I am,

Sire, &c

40 *The History of* ENGLAND.

squadron commanded by lord Anson, to convoy the future queen to England. Meanwhile her household being established, the ambassader set out for the continent on this important affair. The dutchesses of Ancaſter and Hamilton and the counteſs of Effingham were appointed ladies of the bed-chamber, to attend her from the court of Mecklenburg in her paſſage to England; and embarking at Harwich, the whole fleet ſet ſail for Stade on the eighth day of Auguſt. The contract of marriage being ſigned by the earl of Harcourt at Strelitz, her royal highneſs was complimented by the ſtates of the country, and the deputies of the towns. The ambaffador and the ladies were magnificently entertained; and the event was celebrated with the moſt ſplendid rejoicings.

On the ſeventeenth day of the month, the princeſs, accompanied by the reigning duke her brother, ſet out for Mirow amidſt the tears and prayers of all ranks of people, the poor in particular, whoſe zealous patronage ſhe had always ſhewn herſelf. Next day ſhe arrived at Perleberg, where the count de Gotter complimented her in the name of the Pruſſian monarch. From thence ſhe continued her journey by Leutzen to Gourde, and on the twenty-second reached Stade under a general diſcharge of cannon, and amidſt the acclamations of the people. She

She was received by all the burgesſes in arms: the whole town was illuminated: triumphal arches were erected; ſeveral of the principal ladies preſented her with verſes on her approaching nuptials; and the public joy was expreſſed by every poſſible demonſtration. On the twenty-third ſhe embarked in the yacht at Cuxhaven, where ſhe was ſaluted by the Britiſh Squadron aſſembled for her convoy. The moment ſhe entered the cabin, ſhe ſaluted the officers of the different ſhips, who had crouded the deck in order to have the pleaſure of ſeeing her, and were all charmed with her polite and eaſy behaviour.

In this interval the minds of the Engliſh people were wound up to the higheſt pitch of expectation. The king having ſignified his intention that the princeſs ſhould land at Greenwich, both ſides of the Thames were for ſeveral days lined with innumerable multitudes. The river itſelf was covered with pleaſure-boats, wherries, and other veſſels filled with ſpectators, and cruizing between Black-wall and Graveſend, in order to meet and welcome their future queen's arrival. Seats and ſcaffolds were prepared along the ſhore for ſeveral miles; and all the publicans reſiding near the banks of the river, both in Kent and Eſſex, were enriched by an amaz-

ing conflux of company. Every individual observed the wind as earnestly as if his whole fortune had depended upon the first change of weather; and London poured forth her swarms like an immense hive during the first gleams of vernal sunshine. All the medicinal wells, to which wealthy people resort in the summer, either for health or pleasure, were now deserted; and numbers flocked to the metropolis from all parts of the united kingdom to see their sovereign's bride, and be eye-witnesses of the ensuing coronation. After a tedious voyage of ten days, during which the fleet was exposed to three different storms, and often in danger of being driven on the coast of Norway, the princess landed on the seventh day of September in the afternoon at Harwich, where she was received by the mayor and alderman in their formalities. She advanced with her attendants by the way of Colchester to Witham, and lodged at a house belonging to the earl of Abercorn, where she gratified the curiosity of the people with the most obliging condescension. Meanwhile the king, whose ardour far surpassed the impatience of his subjects, being apprized by couriers of her arrival, dispatched his own coaches, with a party of the horse guards, who met her at Rumford, and conducted

ducted her to London, through innumerable crouds of people, assembled on the road to gratify their curiosity and welcome her arrival. Their applause was signified in tumultuous acclamations, which attended her for several miles; and the eagerness of the populace was even carried to a degree of licentious zeal, which the guards could hardly restrain within the bounds of decent respect.

Thus accompanied by great numbers in carriages, on horseback and a-foot, this amiable princess proceeded by Shoreditch church, up Old-street to the city road across Islington, along the new road into Hyde-park, and down Constitution-hill, to the garden gate of the palace of St. James, where she was handed out of her coach by the duke of Devonshire, in quality of lord-chamberlain. At the gate she was received by the duke of York, and in the garden she was met by the king himself, whose looks declared the transports of his joy. When she made her obeisance, he raised her by the hand, which he kissed, and then led her up stairs to the palace, where they dined together, with the whole royal family. At nine the nuptial ceremony was performed by the archbishop of Canterbury in the royal chapel, which had been magnificently decorated

44 *The History of* ENGLAND.

rated for the occasion. Besides the royal family, all the great officers of state, the nobility, peers and peeresses, and the foreign ministers, attended at the service, the conclusion of which was announced to the people by the discharge of the artillery at the Park and the Tower; and the cities of London and Westminster were illuminated in honour of this auspicious event. Nothing was now seen at court but splendour and festivity, exhibiting all the marks of mirth and satisfaction. The great accession of domestic happiness that the king enjoyed in this connection, enabled him to support the fatigue of receiving fresh addresses of felicitation, which were ushered in as usual by the city of London, and presented to him by the clergy, the universities, the dissenters, the cities, towns, and corporations in all parts of the British dominions.

The ceremony of the nuptials was soon succeeded by that of the coronation, which could not fail of being extremely irksome and disagreeable to a prince of true taste and sentiment. A commission had long ago passed the seal, constituting a court to decide the pretensions of a great number of people, who laid claim to several offices and privileges, in the celebration of this necessary

fary form; and many of these, being derived from the most remote antiquity, carried with them an uncouth and ridiculous appearance to a modern reader. Westminster-hall was prepared for the coronation-banquet, by removing the courts of judicature, boarding the floor, erecting canopies, and building three rows of galleries for the accomodation of spectators. A platform was laid between this Hall and the Abbey-church, where the king is actually crowned. All the houses and streets within sight of the procession were faced and crowded with benches and scaffolding, which extended on both sides within the Abbey from the Western entrance almost up to the choir. The prospect formed by these occasional erections, which were surprizingly calculated for security and convenience, could not fail to awaken the expectation of the spectator for something solemn and sublime: but when all these benches were filled with above two hundred thousand people, of both sexes, arrayed in gay apparel, they filled the mind with an astonishing idea of the wealth and populousity of Great-Britain, and entirely eclipsed the procession, notwithstanding the incredible profusion of jewels and finery, and all the other circumstances of pomp by which it was distinguished.

46 *The History of ENGLAND.*

tinguished. The principal objects, however, still maintained their importance in the eyes and bosoms of all the spectators, who could not without the most lively emotions of admiration and joy behold such attractive accomplishments in the royal pair, whose virtues adorned the crowns they were destined to wear.

The ostentation of this year was closed with the anniversary pageants that celebrate the election of a new lord-mayor in the city of London. As the kings and queens of Great-Britain are always entertained at Guildhall by the magistrate who happens to be chosen in the year of the coronation, extraordinary preparations were made for the reception of their majesties; who, with a great number of the nobility, honoured the banquet, in the midst of the most tumultuous expressions of loyalty and attachment that ever were known on any former occasion.

Having thus given a particular account of the most remarkable events that happened in Great-Britain during the course of this year, we must now proceed to relate the operations of the war by sea and land, as they occurred in the different climates of Europe, Asia, Africa and America.

Even

Even from the beginning of winter, the single ships that cruised in the Channel were conducted with such prudence and circumspection, that they made prize of a great number of French privateers; a circumstance that demonstrated their own vigilance and the enemy's activity. In the month of January captain Elphinston, commander of the *Richmond*, mounted with thirty-two guns, fell in with the *Felicité*, a French frigate, of the same force, off the coast of Holland; and a severe engagement began about ten in the morning, near S'Gravesande, about eight miles from the Hague, to which place the prince of Orange, general Yorke the British envoy, and the count d'Affry the French ambassador, repaired with a great multitude of people, to behold the progress and issue of the battle. About noon both ships ran ashore: nevertheless the action was still maintained, until the enemy deserted their quarters: they afterwards abandoned the ship, which was entirely destroyed, after having lost their captain and about one hundred men, who fell in the dispute. The *Richmond* soon floated, without any damage: and the victory cost her but three men killed, and thirteen wounded. The French court loudly ex-

claimed

claimed against this attack as a violation of the Dutch neutrality, and demanded signal satisfaction for the insult and damage they had sustained. Accordingly the States-General made some remonstrances to the court of London, which found means to remove all misunderstanding on this subject. The *Felicité* was bound for Martinique, with a cargo valued at thirty thousand pounds, in company with the *Hermionie* another frigate of the same force and value, which suffered shipwreck on the coast of Dunkirk.

In the course of the same month, captain Hood, commander of the *Minerva* frigate, cruising in the chops of the Channel, descried a great ship of two decks steering to the westward, and found it was the *Warwick*, an English ship, which had carried sixty cannon, and been taken by the enemy. She was now mounted with thirty-five guns, and commanded by Mr. le Verger de Belair, with a commission from the French king. Her crew amounted to about three hundred men, including a detachment of soldiers; and she was bound to Pondicherry in the East Indies. Captain Hood, notwithstanding her superior size, attacked her without hesitation, and was very warmly received. Several masts in both ships were shot away, and they fell foul of one another, while
the

the sea ran very high; so that the crews on both sides were greatly encumbered by their broken masts and shattered rigging. At length the waves separated them, and the Warwick fell to leeward. Captain Hood, having cleared ship, bore directly down upon the enemy: then the engagement was renewed, and lasted about an hour; at the expiration of which the captain of the Warwick struck his colours, having lost about fourteen men killed outright, besides thirty wounded. The loss in number of men was equal on board the Minerva, and all her masts went by the board: nevertheless the prize was brought in triumph to Spithead. In the progress of the same cruise captain Hood had also taken the Ecurneil privateer from Bayonne, of fourteen guns, and one hundred and twenty-two men.

On the thirteenth day of March, another French ship, called the Entreprenant, pierced for forty-four guns, but mounted with twenty-six only, having two hundred and three men on board, and a rich cargo, bound for St. Domingo, was encountered near the Land's-end by the Vengeance frigate of twenty-six guns, commanded by captain Nightingale. The action was maintained on both sides with uncommon fury,

until the Vengeance being set on fire by the enemy's wadding, the French resolved to take advantage of the confusion produced by this accident, and running their bowsprit upon the taffaril of the English frigate, attempted to board her. In this design, however, they miscarried, through the activity of captain Nightingale, who found means to disengage himself, and sheered off to repair his rigging, which had greatly suffered in the engagement. The ship was no sooner in proper condition than he ranged up again close to the enemy, and renewed the contest, which lasted a full hour: then the Entreprenant bore away. Captain Nightingale, though a second time disabled in his masts and rigging, wore ship, ran within pistol-shot, and began a third vigorous attack, which lasted an hour and a half before the enemy called for quarter. Fifteen of their men were killed, and about twice that number wounded. The victors lost about half as many.

In April another French frigate, called the Comete, of two and thirty guns, and two hundred and fifty men, just sailed from Brest, was taken to the westward of Ushant by the Bedford, an English ship of the line, commanded by captain Deane, who conveyed her in safety to Plymouth. About the same

same period, and near the same place, a fourth frigate of the enemy, called the Pheasant, manned with one hundred and twenty-five mariners, was engaged, taken, and brought to Spithead, by captain Brograve commander of the Albany sloop, whose victory was the cheaper, as the crew of the Pheasant had thrown fourteen of their guns overboard during the chase. In the course of the same month a large East-India ship, fitted out from France with twenty-eight guns, and three hundred and fifty men, fell in with the Hero and the Venus, commanded by the captains Fortescue and Harrison, and, being taken without opposition, were carried into Plymouth.

The cruizers belonging to the Squadron commanded by vice-admiral Saunders in the Mediterranean, exerted themselves with no less spirit and activity. In the beginning of this very month, the Oriflame a French ship of forty guns, being off Cape Tres Foreas, was discovered by the Isis, under the command of captain Wheeler, who overtook her at six in the evening, and a running fight was maintained until half an hour after ten. Captain Wheeler being unfortunately slain in the beginning of the action, the command devolved upon lieu-

tenant Cunningham, who observing at length that the enemy's design was to reach, if possible, the Spanish shore, boarded her without hesitation: and in a little time, her commander submitting, she was brought into the bay of Gibraltar. The number of her killed and wounded amounted to forty-five, out of a complement of three hundred and seventy: the loss of the *Isis* did not exceed four killed and nine wounded.

In July another exploit was achieved by a small detachment from the Squadron commanded by the same admiral. Captain Proby, in the *Thunderer*, together with the *Modeste*, *Thetis*, and *Favourite* sloop, being ordered to cruize upon the coast of Spain, with a view to intercept the *Achilles* and *Bouffon*, two French ships of war, which lay in the harbour of Cadiz: they at length ventured to come forth, and on the sixteenth day of the month were discovered by the British cruizers. About midnight the *Thunderer* came up with the *Achilles*, which struck after a warm engagement of half an hour: yet, in this short action, captain Proby had near forty men killed, and above one hundred wounded, he himself having sustained a slight hurt in the right arm. About seven in the same morning

ing the Thetis attacked the Bouffon, and the fire was maintained on both sides with great resolution for half an hour, when the Modeste ranging up, and firing a few guns, the French captain submitted. His ship and her consort suffered considerably, both in their crews and rigging; nevertheless, the victors carried them safely into the bay of Gibraltar.

One of the most remarkable and gallant actions that distinguished this war, and fully proved the vast superiority which the English had over the French in point of naval discipline, was an incident with which we shall now entertain the reader. On Monday the tenth of August, captain Faulkner of the Bellona, a ship of the line, and captain Logie of the Brilliant, a frigate of thirty guns, sailed from the river Tagus for England, having on board a considerable sum of money for the merchants of London. On Thursday in the afternoon being then off Vigo, they descried three sail of ships standing in for the land, one of the line of battle, and two frigates. They no sooner observed captain Faulkner, than they bore down upon him, until within the distance of seven miles, when seeing the Bellona and the frigate through the magnifying medium of a hazy atmosphere, they mis-

took them both for two-decked ships, and dreading the issue of an engagement, resolved to decline the encounter. For this purpose they suddenly wore round, filled all their sails, and crouded away.

Captain Faulkner being by this time convinced of their size, and conjecturing, from the intelligence he had received, that the large ship was the *Courageux*, which was actually the case, he hoisted all the canvas he could carry, and gave chase until sunset, when one of the French frigates hauling out in the offing, he displayed a signal to the *Brilliant* to pursue in that direction, and his order was immediately obeyed. They kept sight of the enemy during the whole night, and at sun-rise had gained but about two miles upon them in a chase of fourteen hours; so that the French commodore might have still shunned an engagement for the whole day, and enjoyed the chance of escaping in the darkness of the succeeding night: but he no longer declined the action. The air being perfectly serene, he now perceived that one of the English ships was a frigate; and the *Bellona* herself, which was one of the best constituted ships in the English navy, appeared to him, at a distance, to be considerably smaller than she really was. The French commander, there-

therefore, being a man of spirit, hoisted a red ensign on the mizzen shrouds, as a signal for his two frigates to close with and engage the *Brilliant*. At the same time he hauled down his studding sails, wore round, and stood for the *Bellona* under his topsails; while captain Faulkner advanced towards her with an easy sail, and ordered his quarters to be manned.

The sea was undulated by a gentle breeze, which facilitated the working of the ships, and at the same time permitted the full use of their heavy artillery. The two ships were equal in burthen, in number of guns, and in weight of metal. The crew on board of the *Courageux*, amounted to seven hundred men, able to stand to their quarters; and they were commanded by M. du Guy Lambert, an officer of approved valour and ability. The *Bellona's* complement consisted of five hundred and fifty chosen men, accustomed to discipline, and inured to service. All the officers were gentlemen of known merit, and the commander had on many occasions distinguished himself by his bravery and conduct. The fire on both sides was suspended until they were within musket shot of each other, and then the engagement began with a

1809

dreadful discharge of fire-arms and artillery. In less than nine minutes all the *Bellona's* braces, bowlings, shrouds, and rigging were cut and shattered by the shot, and the mizen mast fell over the stern, with all the men on the round top, who, nevertheless saved their lives, by clambering into the port holes of the gun-room.

Captain Faulkner, apprehensive that the enemy might seize this opportunity of escaping, gave orders to board them immediately; an attempt which the position of the two ships soon rendered altogether impracticable. The *Courageux* was now falling athwart the fore-foot, or bows of the *Bellona*, in which case the English ship must have been raked fore and aft with great execution. The haul yards, and most of the other ropes by which the *Bellona* could be worked, were already shot away. Captain Faulkner, however, with the assistance of his master, made use of the studding sails with such dexterity, as to wear the ship quite round, and fall upon the opposite quarter of the *Courageux*. His presence of mind and activity in this delicate situation, were not more admirable than the discipline and dispatch of his officers and men, who observing this change in their position, flew to the guns on the other side, now opposed

posed to the enemy, from whence they poured in a most terrible discharge, and maintained it without intermission or abatement. Every shot took place, and bore destruction along with it. The sides of the *Courageux* were shattered and torn by every successive broad side, and her decks were strewed with carnage. About twenty minutes did the enemy sustain the havock made by this battery, so incessantly plied, and so fatally directed. At length it became so intolerable, that the French ensign was hauled down: the rage of battle ceased: the English mariners had left their quarters, and the officers congratulated each other on the success of the day. At this juncture a shot being unexpectedly fired from the lower tier of the *Courageux*, the British seamen ran to their quarters, and, without orders, poured in two broadsides upon the enemy, who now called for quarter, and an end was put to the engagement.

The damage done to the rigging of the *Bellona* was considerable, but she suffered very little in the Hull, and the number of the killed and wounded did not exceed forty. The case was very different with the *Courageux*, which now appeared like a wreck upon the water. Nothing was seen standing but her foremast, and bowsprit; large

large breaches were made in her sides: her decks were torn up in several parts; many of her guns were dismounted; and her quarters were filled with the mangled bodies of the dying and the dead. Above two hundred and twenty were killed outright, and half that number was brought ashore wounded to Lisbon, to which place the prize was conducted. Captain Faulkner was not more commendable for his gallantry in the action, than for the humanity and politeness with which he treated his prisoners, whose grateful acknowledgement, and unsolicited applause, constitute the fairest testimony that a man of honour can receive. Nor ought we to withhold our praise from captain Logie of the *Brilliant*, to whose valour and dexterity the success of the commodore was, in a great measure, owing. Finding it would be impossible for him to acquire any thing but laurels from two frigates, the least of which was equal in strength to the ship he commanded; he resolved to amuse them both, so as to prevent either from assisting the *Courageux*. He accordingly began the action by engaging one of them, called *la Malicieuse*. The other coming up, he withstood their joint efforts, so as to employ their whole fire, while the great ships were engaged, and
even

even above half an hour after the *Courageux* had struck her colours, Finally, he obliged them both to sheer off, and to consult their safety in flight, after they had suffered considerably in their masts and rigging.

Captain Faulkner returned to Lisbon with this prize, which had well nigh perished by accident, before he reached the Tagus. A cask of spirituous liquor catching fire near one of the magazines, the ship must have blown up, had not she been saved by the presence of mind and resolution of Mr. Male, the first lieutenant. Perceiving the flames already communicated to some combustibles that happened to be in the way, he leaped down the hatch-way into the midst of them, and by his personal endeavours they were happily extinguished. The centinel who had kindled the fire by admitting a candle too near the spirits, was burned to death; and twenty French prisoners hearing the alarm, leaped into the sea, where they perished. When the French arrived at Lisbon, they applied to their own consul for relief, but without any effect: the gentlemen, therefore, of the English factory, moved with compassion for their sufferings, and their destitute situation, generously raised a subscription of two hundred
and

and thirty pounds sterling, for their support.

No other advantage of importance, was obtained over the enemy in this part of the world; but some successful exploits was performed in the East and West Indies. After the reduction of Pondicherry on the coast of Coromandel, an armament was equipped against the French settlement of Mahie, situated on the coast of Malabar, about thirty miles to the northward of Tillecherry. A body of forces was embarked at Bombay for this expedition, under the command of major Hector Monro, who took his measures so well, in concert with Mr. Hodges, commander for the English at Tillecherry, and acted with so much spirit in the execution of the scheme, that in the beginning of February, Mr. Louer, commander in chief of the French garrison at Mahie, surrendered the place with all its dependencies. Though this acquisition was of no great consequence to the English, merely as a trading port, the loss of it was severely felt by the enemy, who had fortified it at a considerable expence, and mounted the fortifications with above two hundred pieces of cannon.

The French officers in the East Indies, notwithstanding the loss of Pondicherry,

ex-

exerted themselves with so much industry, as to interest in their cause a prince of the Mogul empire, called the Shah Zadda, who took the field at the head of fourscore thousand men, against the forces of the English East India company, commanded by major John Carnack, and reinforced by the suba of Bengal. This whole army consisted of five hundred Europeans, two thousand five hundred sepoy, and twenty thousand black troops, with twelve pieces of cannon. Both armies advanced to the neighbourhood of Guya, and on the fifteenth day of January, the Mogul troops were routed in a pitched battle. All their artillery was taken, together with part of their baggage, and a number of French officers, including Mr. Law, their principal commander. The shah made an effort to join two rajas, who had taken up arms against the suba; but, receiving intelligence that they were already defeated by the English troops, he surrendered at discretion to the suba, who treated him with great respect, and promised, with the assistance of the English company, to support him in his pretensions to the Mogul empire.

This series of prosperity could hardly be said to be interrupted by the successful at-

tempts of the count d'Estaing, who, with a small squadron, had, in the year 1759, made himself master of the English fort of Bender-Abassi, in the gulph of Persia, and taken two frigates, with three other vessels belonging to the company. In the succeeding year the fort of Natal surrendered to him at discretion, and he found two ships in the road. After these exploits, he sailed to Sumatra, where he reduced Bencouli, Tappanopoli, and Marlborough fort; which last, though in a good state of defence, was, after a very weak resistance, given up by the garrison. This bold adventurer, however, could not derive so much honour from the success of his expedition, as disgrace from having made it contrary to the most sacred laws of arms; for, at this period, it is well known, he was no other than a prisoner on parole. Neither did the English interest suffer any thing from a revolution, which was, at this time, affected, in favour of Mir Cossim Ali Kawn, who was placed on the throne of Bengal in the room of his father-in-law Jassier Ali Cawn, who had been raised to that dignity by the celebrated lord Clive, and who was now deposed for his cruelty and mal-administration. On the contrary, the privileges and immunities of the English

lish company were confirmed and enlarged by the new nabob.

In the course of the preceding month a severe blow was given to the Dutch company settled at the island of Ceylon, lying off Cape Comorin, the extremity of the peninsula of Indus. This company, having discontinued the payment of certain duties demanded by the king of Candia, and being suspected of a design to render that kingdom tributary to their power; the prince marched with a considerable army against their settlements; surprised Point de Galle, and having taken Colombo, their principal establishment, massacred all that were found in it, without distinction of sex or age. Then he ordered his troops to hew down all the cinnamon and other spice trees that grew in that part of the country to which the European traders had access, and threatened to extirpate every Dutch family from the island.

During this campaign the English arms were no less successful in America than in Asia. In the beginning of July, colonel Grant, at the head of two thousand six hundred men, began his march from Fort Prince George, on the frontiers of Carolina, for the country of the Cherokees, which he determined to ravage with fire and sword.

On the tenth day of the month, he was attacked on his march by a body of Indians, who fired for some time with great vivacity, but little effect, and then disappeared. After this attempt he met with no opposition in traversing their country. He reduced fifteen towns to ashes, besides little villages and farm-houses; destroyed about fourteen hundred acres of corn, drove the inhabitants to starve in the mountains, and filled their whole nation with dismay.

This terror produced the desired effect, and compelled them to sue for peace. A deputation of their chiefs waited on the colonel, to explain their distresses, and signify their sentiments on the subject, and he forwarded them to the lieutenant-governor at Charles-Town, where a new treaty was actually concluded. Sir William Johnson made a tour round the other Indian nations, in order to quiet their fears, aroused at the conquests of Great-Britain; which fears the French emissaries had fomented with their usual industry and success. A conference was held between the Six Nations and some of the American governors, in order to ratify the treaties subsisting with those tribes; but a warm dispute arose from a demand of certain lands, made by a Delaware chief, who complained that the English settlers had

taken possession of them in consequence of a fraudulent purchase; and though the rising animosity was stifled for the present, it soon gave occasion to those barbarous massacres, which were afterwards committed by these savages. The more northern Indians, settled on the frontiers of Nova Scotia, seemed extremely well-pleased with their new protectors and allies. Their chiefs in great numbers visited the governor of Halifax, owned their dependence on the king of Great-Britain, and, in token of perpetual friendship and alliance, buried the hatchet with the usual solemnity.

In the West-Indies, rear-admiral Holmes, commander of the squadron at Jamaica, conducted his cruises with equal judgment and success. Having received intelligence in the beginning of June, that several ships of war belonging to the enemy had sailed from Port Louis, and in particular that the St. Anne had just quitted Port au Prince, he forthwith made such a disposition of his squadron as was most likely to intercept them; and on the thirteenth day of the month he himself in the Hampshire fell in with the St. Anne, and chased her to leeward down upon the Centaur. Her captain discovering this last ship, hauled up between

them, ran close in shore, until he was becalmed, about a league to the northward of Donna Maria bay. Then he began to fire his stern-chase; but when the Centaur came along side, he struck his colours, and surrendered. The St. Anne was a beautiful new ship, pierced for sixty four cannon, but mounting only forty, manned with near four hundred mariners and soldiers, under the command of Mr. Aiguillon, and loaded with a rich cargo of coffee, indigo, and sugar. Nor was the squadron stationed off the Leeward Islands, under the conduct of Sir James Douglas, less alert and successful in protecting the British traders, and clearing those seas of the Martinico privateers, of which he took a great number.

In the month of June, the island of Dominique, which the French had settled and fortified, was attacked and reduced by a small body of troops commanded by lord Rollo, and conducted thither from Guadalupe by Sir James Douglas, with four ships of the line, and some frigates. Two officers being sent on shore at Roseau, with a manifesto addressed to the inhabitants, two deputies came off in order to treat of a surrender; but the first transports of their fear subsiding, and monsieur Longprie, their
gover-

governor, encouraging them to stand upon their defence, they afterwards refused to submit, and manned their entrenchments with a face of resolution. The ships immediately anchored close to the shore, and a disposition was made for disembarking. The troops landed in the evening, and formed on the beach side, under the fire of the squadron. Lord Rollo, seeing the forces galled by an irregular fire from trees and bushes; considering that the intrenchments commanded the town, which he had already occupied; that the country was naturally strong, and the enemy might be reinforced before morning; determined wisely to attack their entrenchments without delay; and this service was performed by himself and colonel Melville at the head of the grenadiers, with such vigour and success, that the enemy were driven successively from all their batteries and intrenchments: Mr. Longprie, their commandant, and some other officers, were taken at their head-quarters. Next day the inhabitants submitted, delivered up their arms, and took the oaths of allegiance to his Britannic majesty. Thus the whole island was conquered at a very small expence, and a defensible post established at Roseau by the British commander.

Very

Very little of consequence happened in the British settlements on the coast of Africa, except the destruction of the town of Goree, which was accidentally set on fire; and an attempt on James fort, in the mouth of the river Gambia, by two French snows, one of which perished by running on shore, and the other failed away, after having suffered considerable damage.

With regard to the transactions in the British channel a powerful Squadron had been stationed all the winter in the bay of Quiberon, under the command of Sir Edward Hawke and Sir Charles Hardy. In the month of January, they took two small French frigates bound to the coast of Guiney, and a few merchant-ships of little value; and in the month of March the two admirals returned to Spithead: but another Squadron was afterwards sent to occupy the same station. In the month of July, while the English were employed in demolishing the fortifications on the isle of Aix, the great ships that protected this service were attacked by a French armament from the Charente, consisting of six prames*, a few row-gallies, and

* A prame is a long, broad vessel of two decks, mounted with six and twenty large cannon below, and three mortars above. They are rigged like ketches, and draw very little water.

and a great number of launches crowded with men. They dropped down with the ebb, and placing themselves between the isle d'Enet and fort Fouras, played upon the English ships in Aix road, with twelve mortars, and seventy large cannon; but they met with such a warm reception from the British Squadron, that in a few hours they retreated to their former station, where the water was too shallow for the English ships to pursue them.

These were part of that armament which had been formerly equipped for the reduction of Belleisle, and which the British ministry were now determined, at all events, to subdue. Belleisle lies four leagues from the point of Quiberon, about half way between Port Louis and the mouth of the Loire. It extends about six leagues in length, and little more than two in breadth; contains a pretty large town called Palais, fortified with a citadel, besides a good number of villages, and the whole number of inhabitants, exclusive of the garrison, may amount to six thousand, chiefly maintained by the fishery of Pilchards. It was supposed the reduction of this island would be easily achieved, and the conquest attended with manifold advantages: that it would alarm the French nation, and oblige them to maintain a numerous body of forces on the

the opposite continent; consequently make a considerable diversion in favour of the British army in the north of Germany: that its central situation would render it an effectual check upon Port l'Orient, and disable the enemy from equipping any naval armament at Brest; as all the materials for building and fitting out ships in time of war, were brought thither from Port Louis, Nantz, and Rochfort, through the channel between Belleisle and the main land, which conveyance, they could not pretend to use, if the English were masters of Belleisle: finally, that as all the French ships homeward bound from the East and West Indies, as well as from other parts of the world, ran in with the land, so as first to make Belleisle, the English, by keeping a small squadron between the island and the main, and a good look-out in the offing, would be able to make prize of all those vessels.

The troops destined for this expedition, amounted to ten battalions, under the command of major-general Hodgson, assisted by major general Crauford, with proper engineers, some troops of light-horse, and a detachment of artillery. The squadron, besides transports, consisted of ten ships of the line, several frigates, two fire ships, and two bomb-ketches, commanded by commodore Keppel, brother to the earl of Albemarle,

marle, a gallant officer, who had signalized himself on several occasions, in the course of this and the last war. The whole armament sailed from Spithead on the twenty-ninth day of March ; and on the seventh of April came to anchor in the great road of Belleisle, where a disposition was made for landing the forces. The commanders having agreed that the descent should be made on the sandy beach, near the point of Lomaria, towards the south east end of the island, a feint was made to attack the citadel of Palais, while two large ships convoyed the troops to the landing-place, and silenced a battery which the enemy had there erected. This service being performed, the flat-bottomed boats advanced to the shore ; and a small body of troops landed under the command of major Purcel and captain Osborne ; but the enemy who had intrenched themselves on the heighths, appeared suddenly above them, and poured down such a severe fire, as threw them into confusion, and intimidated the rest of the troops from landing.

Captain Osborne, at the head of sixty grenadiers, advanced with great intrepidity to near as to exchange several thrusts with the French officer, until having received three shots in the body, he fell dead on the spot. Major Purcel shared the same fate,
which

which was extended to several other officers. In a word, this handful of men being overpowered with numbers, were totally routed, and either killed or taken prisoners; so that this attempt was attended with the loss of near five hundred men, including two sea-officers, and about fifty mariners belonging to the ships that endeavoured to cover the landing. This discouraging check was succeeded by tempestuous weather, which damaged some of the transports. When the storm abated, the Prince of Orange ship of war sailed round the island, in order to survey the coast, and discover, if possible, some other place for disembarkation; but the whole seemed to be secured by rocks and batteries in such a manner, as precluded all access.

Notwithstanding this unfavourable prospect, another scheme was laid, and the execution of it crowned with success. On the twenty-second day of the month, in the morning, the troops were disposed in the flat-bottomed boats, and rowed to different parts of the island, as if they intended to land in different places; by which means the attention of the enemy was distracted in such a manner, that they knew not where to expect the descent, and were obliged to divide their forces at random. Mean while brigadier Lambert pitched upon the rocky
point

point of Lomaria, where captain Paterfon, at the head of Beauclerk's grenadiers, and captain Murray, with a detachment of marines, climbed the precipice with surprising intrepidity, and sustained the fire of a strong body of the enemy, until they were supported by the rest of the English troops, who now landed in great numbers. Then the French abandoned their batteries, and retired with precipitation: but this advantage was not gained without bloodshed. About forty men were killed, and a considerable number wounded, including colonel Mackenzie and captain Murray of the marines, who seemed to vie with the marching regiments in valour and activity, and captain Paterfon of Beauclerk's grenadiers, who lost his arm in the dispute. Monsieur de St. Croix, the governor, perceiving that all the English troops were disembarked, to the number of eight thousand men, recalled all his detachments to Palais, and prepared for a vigorous defence, his forces, now joined by the militia of the island, amounting to four thousand men fit for service.

On the twenty third of April, the English troops were formed into columns, and began their march towards the capital of the island. Next day general Hodgson ordered a detachment of light horse to take

post at Sauzon ; and on the twenty-fifth, a corps of infantry took possession of a village called Bordilla, where they began to throw up an entrenchment ; but they were dislodged by a party of the enemy's grenadiers : the whole army, however, entrenched itself in the neighbourhood. The artillery, and implements of siege for breaking ground, being still on board the fleet, and the tempestuous weather rendering it impossible to send them ashore, the French governor took this opportunity to erect six redoubts to defend the avenues of Palais ; and these were finished with admirable skill and activity, before general Hodgson had it in his power to begin his operations. All that he could do, in the mean time, was to publish a manifesto, directed to the inhabitants, importing, that, if they would put themselves under the protection of the British government, they should be indulged with the free exercise of their religion, and retain all the rights and privileges, which they had ever enjoyed. This promise had a considerable influence upon the natives, a good number of whom immediately accepted the proposal.

The next step the general took was to summon the commandant, who continued encamped under the walls of the citadel, and

and declared he would defend the place to the last extremity ; and indeed it must be owned, for the honour of this gentleman, that, in the course of the siege, he performed every thing that could be expected from a brave and experienced officer. About the latter end of April, some mortars being brought up, began to play upon the town, within the walls of which the enemy now took shelter ; and at this time Sir William Peere Williams, a young gentleman of great merit and expectations, and captain in Burgoyne's light horse, was shot by a French centinel, in reconnoitring their works.

The besiegers broke ground on the second of May ; but next night the trenches were attacked by the enemy with such vigour, that the piquets on the left were put in disorder. Major-general Crawford, who commanded in the trenches, rallied the troops, and endeavoured to animate them by his own example ; but on this occasion they did not act with their usual spirit : some hundreds were killed, and the major-general with his two aids-du-camp fell into the hands of the enemy, who retreated without having made any attempt upon the right, where the piquets stood their ground, determined to give them a warm reception. The damage they had done was next day

repaired : a redoubt was begun near the right of their works ; and from this period the operations of the siege were prosecuted with unremitting vigour, notwithstanding a severe fire maintained without interruption, and a succession of well-concerted sallies, which were not executed without a considerable effusion of blood.

The engineers giving it as their opinion that the works could not be properly advanced, until the French redoubts should be taken, the general made the disposition for the attack, which began on the thirteenth at day-brak. A terrible fire from four pieces of cannon, and above thirty cohorns, was poured into the redoubt on the right of the enemy's flank : then a detachment of marines, supported by part of London's regiment, advanced to the parapet, drove the French from the works, and, after a very obstinate dispute with their bayonets fixed, took possession of the place. All the other five were reduced, one after another, by the same detachment, reinforced by Colvil's regiment, under the command of colonel Teesdale and major Nesbitt ; and a considerable slaughter was made of the enemy, who withdrew into the citadel in great confusion. Such was the ardour of the assailants, that they entered the streets
of

of Palais pell-mell with the fugitives, made a good number of prisoners, and took possession of the town, in which they found the French hospital, and some English prisoners, who had been taken in different sallies.

The English being now masters of the whole island, except the citadel of Palais, bent all their endeavours to the reduction of this fortress, which was very strong both by art and nature, and defended with uncommon courage and perseverance on the side of the besiegers. Parallels were finished, barricadoes made, and batteries erected: and an incessant fire from mortars and artillery was mutually maintained, by night and by day, from the thirteenth of May to the twenty-fifth, when that of the enemy began to abate. In the course of such desperate service, a great number of men must have been killed, and many died of distemper.

The island was in itself so barren, and monsieur de St. Croix had taken such effectual precautions to remove its produce, that the English army had neither fresh provision nor refreshments, except what was brought by sea from England. From thence, indeed, they were tolerably well furnished with live cattle: they were also reinforced

78 *The History of ENGLAND.*

by one regiment from Portsmouth, and another from the island of Jersey. By the end of May a breach was made in the citadel; and notwithstanding the indefatigable industry of the garrison and the governor in repairing the damage, the fire of the besiegers increased to such a degree, that great part of their defences was ruined, and the breach become practicable by the seventh day of June, when monsieur de St. Croix, being apprehensive of a general assault, demanded a capitulation. He was indulged with the most honourable conditions, in consideration of the noble defence he had made. The articles were immediately signed and executed, and Beauclerk's grenadiers took possession of the citadel*.

What-

* *Capitulation for the Citadel of Belleisle, made June 7, 1761.*

Preliminary Article.

"The chevalier de St. Croix, brigadier in the king's army, and commandant of the citadel of Belleisle, proposes that the place shall surrender on the 12th of June, in case no succours arrive before that time; and that, in the mean while, no works shall be carried on, on either side, nor any act of hostility, nor any communication between the English besieging, and the French besieged,

Refused.

Ar-

Whatever might be the opinion of politicians concerning the value of this conquest,

Article I. The entire garrison shall march through the breach with the honours of war, drums beating, colours flying, lighted matches, and three pieces of cannon, with twelve rounds each. Each soldier shall have fifteen rounds in his cartouch box. All the officers, sergeants, soldiers, and inhabitants, are to carry off their baggage; the women to go with their husbands.

Art. I. Granted. In favour of the gallant defence which the citadel has made under the orders of the chevalier de St. Croix.

Article II. Two covered waggons shall be provided, and the effects which they carry shall be deposited in two covered boats, which are not to be visited.

Art. II. The covered waggons are refused; but care shall be taken to transport all the baggage to the continent by the shortest way.

Article III. Vessels shall be furnished for carrying the French troops by the shortest way into the nearest ports of France, by the first fair wind.

Art. III. Granted.

Article IV. The French troops that are to embark are to be victualled in the same proportion, with the troops of his Britannic majesty; and the same proportion of tonnage is to be allowed to the officers and soldiers which the English troops have.

Art. IV. Granted.

Article V. When the troops shall be embarked, a vessel is to be furnished for the chevalier de St. Croix, brigadier in the king's army, to M. de la Ville the king's

quest, and the price at which it was purchased, certain it is, that the rejoicings in Eng-

king's lieutenant, to M. de la Garique, colonel of foot, with brevet of commandant in the absence of the chevalier de St. Croix, and to the field-officers including those of the artillery, and engineers; as also for the three pieces of cannon, as well as for the soldiers of the cour royale, to be transported to Nantz, with their wives, servants, and the baggage which they have in the citadel, which is not to be visited. They are to be victualled in the same proportion with the English officers of the same rank.

Art. V. Care shall be taken that all those who are mentioned in this article shall be transported, without loss of time, to Nantz, with their baggage and effects, as well as the three pieces of cannon, granted by the first article.

Article VI. After the expiration of the term mentioned in the first article, a gate of the citadel shall be delivered up to the troops of his Britannic majesty, at which there shall be kept a French guard of equal number, until the king's troops shall march out to embark. Those guards shall be ordered to permit no English soldier to enter, nor no French soldier to go out.

Art. VI. A gate shall be delivered to the troops of his Britannic majesty, the moment the capitulation is signed; and an equal number of French troops shall occupy the same gate.

Article VII. A vessel shall be furnished to the commissarie of war, and to the treasurer, in which they may carry their baggage, with their secretaries, clerks, and servants, without being molested or visited.

England were sincere and universal. Great and deserved applause was bestowed upon the land

ed. They shall be conducted as well as the other troops, to the nearest port of France.

Art. VII. Granted.

Article VIII. Mess. de Taille, captain-general of the garde coste, Lamp, major, two lieutenants of cannoneers, of the garde coste, and ninety bombadeers, cannoneers, sergeants and fusilleers, gardes costes of Belleisle, paid by the king, shall have it in their choice to remain in the island as well as all the other inhabitants, without being molested, either as to their persons or goods. And if they have a mind to sell their goods, furniture, boats, nets, and in general any effects which belong to them, within six months, and to pass over to the continent, they shall not be hindered; but, on the contrary, they shall have proper assistance, and the necessary passports.

Art. VIII. They shall remain in the island under protection of the king of Great Britain, as the other inhabitants, or shall be transported to the continent, if they please, with the garrison.

Article IX. M. de Sarignon, clerk of the treasury of the French troops, the armourer, the bourgeois cannoneers, the store-keepers, and all the workmen belonging to the engineers, may remain at Belleisle with their families, or go to the continent with the same privileges as above-mentioned.

Art. IX. Granted. To remain in the island, upon the same footing with the other inhabitants, or be transported with the garrison to the continent, as they shall think proper.

Article X. The Roman catholic religion shall be exercised in the island with the same freedom as under a French government. The churches shall be preserved,

land and sea officers employed in this expedition, who, with so noble a perseverance, had en-

ed, and the rectors and other priests continued: and in case of death, they shall be replaced by the bishop of Vannes. They shall be maintained in their functions, privileges, immunities, and revenues.

Art. X. All the inhabitants, without distinction, shall enjoy the free exercise of their religion. The other part of this article must necessarily depend on the pleasure of his Britannic majesty.

Article XI. The officers and soldiers who are in the hospitals of the town and citadel, shall be treated in the same manner as the garrison; and after their recovery, they shall be furnished with vessels to carry them to France. In the mean while, they shall be supplied with subsistence and remedies till their departure, according to the state which the comptroller and surgeons shall give in.

Art. XI. Granted.

Article XII. After the term mentioned in the preliminary article is expired, orders shall be given, that the commissaries of artillery, engineers, and provisions, shall make an inventory of what shall be found in the king's magazines; out of which bread, and wine, and meat, shall be furnished to subsist the French troops to the moment of their departure.

Art. XII. They shall be furnished with necessary subsistence till their departure, on the same footing with the troops of his Britannic majesty.

Article XIII. Major-general Crauford, as well as all the English officers and soldiers, who have been made prisoners since the 8th of April 1761, inclusive, shall be set at liberty after the signing of the capitulation,

encountered and overcome such mighty difficulties; and who, after such a severe check

on
tion; and shall be disengaged from their parole. The

French officers of different ranks, volunteers, sergeants, and soldiers who have been made prisoners since the 8th of April, shall also be set at liberty.

Art. XIII. The English officers and soldiers, prisoners of war in the citadel, are to be free the moment the capitulation is signed. The French officers and soldiers, who are prisoners of war, shall be exchanged according to the cartel of Sluys.

All the above articles shall be executed faithfully on both sides, and such as may be doubtful shall be fairly interpreted.

Granted.

After the signature, hostages shall be sent on both sides, for the security of the articles of the capitulation.

Granted.

All the archives, registers, publick papers, and writings, which have any relation to the government of this island, shall be faithfully given up to his Britannick majesty's commissary: two days shall be allowed for the evacuation of the citadel; and the transports, necessary for the embarkation, shall be ready to receive the garrison and their effects. A French officer shall be ordered to deliver up all the warlike stores and provisions; and, in general, every thing which belongs to his most Christian majesty, to an English commissary appointed for that purpose. And an officer shall be ordered to shew us all the mines and fouterains of the place.

S. Hodgson. A. Keppel
Le Chevalier de St. Croix."

84 *The History of ENGLAND.*

on their outset, had the spirit to renew the attack under circumstances nearly as unfavourable as those, by which they had at first been repulsed. The citizens of London addressed the king on the occasion, and their example was followed by most of the towns and corporations in the kingdom.

The events of the last campaign had produced no material alteration in the political system of Europe. Those states that professed a neutrality still kept aloof, and enjoyed the fruits of their forbearance. The Dutch continued to trade, and grumble at the interruption which their navigation sustained from the English cruisers: nay, the states of Holland and West Friesland resolved, in consequence of the proceedings of the English, that twelve ships of the line should be equipped with all expedition, and employed in cruising in the Mediterranean for the protection of their commerce. The Danes extended their trade in silence. The Spaniards at last began to feel the benefit of an active traffick. The Portuguese monarch was wholly engaged in the trial and expulsion of jesuits and conspirators. The court of Vienna seemed more and more determined upon prosecuting the war with vigour. The empress of Russia

fra promised to act in perfect concert with her allies : the Swedes appeared still irresolute : as for the French monarch, whatever ambition or interest he might have to atchieve conquests, or to retrieve what he had lost in the course of the war, his finances were so encumbered, that he could no longer furnish the subsidies which he had promised to the allies of his crown ; and therefore professed an earnest desire to put an end to the troubles, which had so long desolated the best part of Europe.

In the month of February his ambassador at the court of Stockholm delivered a declaration to the Swedish monarch, importing, that the most Christian king, moved by the calamities of war, so widely diffused, and so severely felt in different parts of the world, thought it his indispensable duty to declare, that his humanity in general, and his regard to his own subjects in particular, prompted him to express his desire that his allies would concur with him in restoring the peace of Europe : that in adjusting the differences between France and England, he would abundantly display his moderation, whenever Great Britain should be inclined to acquiesce in reasonable terms : that common humanity required his allies to concert with him a plan of pacification, and he ho-

86 *The History of ENGLAND.*

ped every member of the alliance would labour to strengthen, if possible, the bands of amity with which they were connected: that, in the mean time, an accumulation of distress among his unhappy subjects, an additional depopulation of countries, a disorder in the finances of several powers, and the greatest doubt whether an advantageous peace could be made in Germany, induced him to declare, that as the war had considerably diminished his resources, he was constrained to lessen his subsidies, and even to give notice, that, should the war continue, he could no longer promise an exact compliance with the letter of his engagements.

France was not only exhausted by external wars, but likewise embroiled with internal dissensions. The disputes between the clergy and the civil administration of justice, far from being quieted by the royal authority, seemed to acquire fresh rancour from some late complaints exhibited against the Jesuits; a society which at this juncture incurred universal odium, from the intrigues and conspiracy which some of their members had conducted in the kingdom of Portugal. They were extremely unpopular in France, not only on account of the doctrines which they taught and promulgated in their seminaries

naries and writings, but also for their officious interfering in temporal concerns; and particularly for some frauds in commerce, of which they were loudly and universally accused. They had prosecuted a considerable traffic with the island of Martinique; and some of their vessels being taken by the English cruizers, seized this pretence for stopping payment, in order to defraud their creditors: but they were cited before the tribunals of the kingdom, and compelled to do justice to those whom they had intended to injure. The issue of this prosecution was attended with new disgrace to the whole order, and the people in general wished for their expulsion from France. The parliament of Paris took cognizance of their books, some of which they condemned to the flames, as containing doctrines subversive of all government and morality. They moreover issued some severe edicts against the society; but the king interposing in their behalf, published an arret, suspending all proceedings against them for a twelve-month. This the parliament consented to register, on condition that it should continue in force no longer than the first of April: at the same time they directed the first president to represent in the strongest terms to his majesty, the ill consequences

88 *The History of* ENGLAND.

of protecting such a pernicious order; the more dangerous from their great number, which in France alone was computed to amount to above twenty thousand.

We shall now turn our eyes to the operations of war, as it was carried on in Germany during this campaign. In the beginning of January, while both armies remained in winter quarters, the head quarters of prince Ferdinand being at Uslar, and those of the French general in Hesse Cassel, divers hot skirmishes happened in different parts of Westphalia. General Luckner, with four thousand men of the allied army, had in December been driven from Heligenstadt by a more numerous body of French under the command of the count de Broglie. In the beginning of January the same count, reinforced by Mr. de Stainville, constrained general Mansberg to abandon the town of Duderstadt, where he was posted; but a reinforcement arriving under Kilmansegge and Luckner, the French were expelled in their turn, and pursued with considerable loss as far as Witzenhausen.

Prince Ferdinand, having assembled his army in the beginning of February, began his march towards Cassel on the eleventh day of the month, in four columns, by the way of Warbourg, Liebenau, Sielen, and Drin-

Dringelbourg, the command of the vanguard being assigned to the marquis of Granby, who advanced to Kerchberg and Metze. In the mean time, the hereditary prince having received intelligence that the French garrison of Fritzlar was not prepared for a defence he marched thither with a few battalions, in hope of carrying the place by a sudden assault with musquetry only: but he met with such a warm reception, that he was obliged to wait for the arrival of cannon and mortars, which were plied with great vivacity; and the garrison being destitute of artillery, colonel de Narbonnes their commander, capitulated on honourable terms, after having made a very gallant resistance. During these transactions, lieutenant general Briedenbach took possession of a large magazine at Rosenthal, and made an unsuccessful attempt upon Marpurg, in which he lost his life; but this place was afterwards relinquished by the French at the approach of the marquis of Granby, who took possession of it without opposition. Gudersberg likewise surrendered to the same general.

General Sporcken, with the united corps of Kilmansegge and Wangenheim, had advanced by the way of Dargelstadt to Thomas-spruck, upon the Unstrut. There being reinforced by a body of Prussians, he

fell upon the Saxon troops, cantoned between Mulhausen and Eysenach, with such vigour and success, that a great number were killed, and five entire battalions made prisoners of war. On the other hand, the enemy attacked the post of Gentzungen near Filtzberg, from whence they were repulsed with considerable loss. The design of prince Ferdinand was to reduce Ziegenhayn and Cassel, before the Duc de Broglio should receive his reinforcements; and these two places were accordingly invested.

The allied army was cantoned in two lines, with the right extending to the Lahne, and the left stretched towards Fulda; while prince Ferdinand fixed his quarters at Schwiensberg. Lord Granby, having left a garrison in Marpurg, marched into the neighbourhood of Lohr. Another body, under general Hardenberg, advanced to Kircham; while the detachment employed at the siege of Cassel proceeded very slowly in their operations, and received some mortifying checks from vigorous sallies that were made by the garrison. At length the Duc de Broglio, being joined by all the detachments he expected from the Lower Rhine, advanced towards the army of the allies, which at this time was in no condition

dition to cope with him in the field. On the twenty-first day of March the detachment under the hereditary prince was, in its retreat from Heimbach, encountered by a numerous body of the enemy near the village of Stangerode, in the neighbourhood of Grunberg. Baron Clofen, who commanded the French troops on this occasion, attacked nine regiments of Hanoverians, Hessians, and Brunswickers, at the head of his dragoons, with such impetuosity, just as they were entering a defile, that they were totally defeated with the loss of two thousand men either killed or taken, eighteen pair of colours, and twelve pieces of artillery. Major-general de Rhede fell in the action, and the rest of the detachment retired in tolerable order.

After this disaster, the allies continued to retreat as the enemy advanced. They relinquished the siege of Ziegenhayn, from which they did not retire without considerable loss. All the places they had lately conquered were now deserted. The siege of Cassel was raised; the army took post behind the Dymel, and prince Ferdinand established his head quarters at Neuhas near Paderborn. In consequence of these motions; the French were again in possession of the whole landgraviate of Hesse. Cassel, mas-

masters of Gottingen and Munden in Hanover, and at liberty to penetrate into the heart of that electorate. The situation of the allies appeared the more dangerous, as the prince de Soubise was at the head of a second French army, encamped on the Lower Rhine; and if he had heartily cooperated with the mareschal de Broglio, it is generally thought they might have terminated the war before the close of the summer.

Their progress, however, was retarded by the loss of a large magazine of hay, collected at Wetel on the Rhine, which was consumed by fire, not without suspicion that it was wilfully destroyed. The hereditary prince of Brunswick, at the head of a separate body, advanced to Nettelen, in the neighbourhood of Munster, about the middle of May, to watch the motions of the army under Soubise, who caused three different camps to be formed at Dusseldorff, Burich, and Rees, though part of his forces still continued in cantonment. The war was in the mean time prosecuted by detached parties, and skirmishes were fought with various success. The army of the duke de Broglio, having crossed the Dymel about the latter end of June, dislodged general Sporcken from his post on the left of that river,

river, with the loss of eighteen hundred men taken prisoners, nineteen pieces of cannon, four hundred horses, and two hundred waggons. After this exploit, the French took possession of Warburg, Paderborn, and Dringelbroen, and compelled prince Ferdinand to repass the Lippe on the second day of July. These successes, however, were over ballanced by the achievements of small parties, which he detached from time to time to harrass them in their motions, and cut off their convoys of provision. On the thirteenth day of July, in the morning, general Luckner with his detachment advanced to Salme, where the count de Chabot was posted with a strong body of horse and foot; which he attacked with such impetuosity, that they were constrained to repass the Lippe with precipitation, and lost about two hundred men, and as many horses, in their retreat. Other parties intercepted the French convoys in the neighbourhood of Cassel, and did such considerable damage to the enemy, that they resolved to unite their armies, and give battle to prince Ferdinand.

The allies were encamped at Hohenover: the right wing, at the extremity of which the hereditary prince was posted, extended as far as the village of Buderch, and this was

was guarded by a detachment. The body of the army occupied the heights of Wambeln; and the prince of Anhalt possessed the ground between Illingen and Hohenover. The marquis of Granby maintained his position on the heights of Kirch-Denckern: lieutenant-general Wutgenau, advancing from the heath of Untrup, marched by his right, in order to reach the village of Kirch-Denckern: the avenues and posts on the little rivers Aast and Sultzbach were defended by the piquets of the army. On the fifteenth day of July, in the evening, the army of Soubise, having struck their tents, advanced on the left of the allies, and dislodged the advanced posts of lord Granby, against whose corps their chief effort was directed. Prince Ferdinand now thought proper to make a new disposition. The marquis was commanded to maintain his ground to the last extremity. Wutgenau was ordered to make a motion to the left, to block up the high road from Lipstadt to Ham, and to act in concert with the marquis, whose right was moreover sustained by the left of the body commanded by the prince of Anhalt, and this general's own right extended to the Aast, above Kirch-Denckern. Lieutenant-general Conway replaced the prince of Anhalt, between Illingen

lingen and Hohenover. The hereditary prince ordered lieutenant-general Bose to secure the heights of Wambeln, leaving count Kilmansegge on the side of Buderich. The greatest part of the artillery was planted by count Shaumbourg Lippe on the front of the left. General Sporcken, who encamped with a separate body at Hartzfeld, was ordered to detach six squadrons, and as many battalions, over the Lippe, to support M. de Wutgenau, and to co-operate with the rest as he should judge most effectual for the advantage of the whole. Lord Granby, being furiously attacked by the enemy, sustained a prodigious fire of artillery and small arms, and with unshaken resolution withstood all their efforts until the arrival of Wutgenau; who, advancing on his left, and charging them in flank, obliged them to retire into the woods with precipitation: then he extended his right to Haus-Villinghausen, and turned his left towards the high road of Ham, the defence of which place was his chief object.

Prince Ferdinand having learned from the prisoners that mareschal Broglio had decamped from Erwitte at break of day, in order to join Soubise, and give battle to the allies, concluded that the strongest efforts would be made upon his left, and took his
pre-

precautions accordingly. He ordered general Howard to bring up the brigade of infantry commanded by lord Frederick Cavendish, and the cavalry of lord Pembroke. Colonel Grevendorff was detached with two battalions to barricade and fortify the village of Kirch-Denckern, and to be there supported, in case of necessity, by general Howard. Mean while, the enemy kept possession of some posts opposite to the picquets of the allied army, and the patrols skirmished all night. At three in the morning the whole French army advanced again to the attack on the side where Wutgenau was posted, and a dreadful fire of cannon and musquetry was maintained on both sides for five hours, during which the enemy was not able to gain one inch of ground. About nine, prince Ferdinand receiving information that their design was to cannonade the camp of lord Granby from an opposite eminence, immediately ordered a body of troops to anticipate this operation by a vigorous charge. This movement proved decisive. The troops advanced with amazing intrepidity, and attacked with such vigour as in a little time obliged the enemy to give way, and abandon the field to the allies. Their left, which still maintained a severe cannonade on that side where the hereditary prince

prince commanded, no sooner heard of the miscarriage on their right than they desisted from the attack, and retreated in order. The left of the enemy was pursued as far as Hiltrup, about a league from the field of battle; but as the nature of the ground did not permit the cavalry to act, they sustained the less damage in their retreat. In this unsuccessful attack they lost about five thousand men, killed or taken, with a few colours, and pieces of cannon; whereas the loss of the allies, in killed and prisoners, did not amount to above five hundred.

This action was the climax of the campaign of 1761 in Westphalia. It did the greatest honour to the wisdom of the accomplished commander in the disposition, and to the bravery of the troops in the combat; but it was far from being decisive: for, notwithstanding the loss of the French, they were still superior in their numbers. On this disaster the old misunderstanding between Soubise and Broglie broke out with fresh animosity. Narratives, memorials, and replies, conceived with great bitterness, were mutually remitted from both mareschals to their court. Broglie alledged, that his misfortune was owing to the prince de Soubise's delay, who did not begin his attack till it was too late for him to continue it.

The prince de Soubise, on the other hand, affirmed, that Broglie began his attack earlier than the time that had been fixed, in hopes of forcing the allies without Soubise's assistance; and when he found that point lost, obliged Soubise to retreat, that he might not have the honour of retrieving it.

Immediately after the action, the two French armies separated. Broglie marched back towards Cassel; and Soubise, retreating to Dortmund, passed the Roer; as if they had laid aside for that campaign all thoughts of acting further on the offensive. But his passage of the Roer was designed to secure a great number of barges coming down the Rhine, loaden with forage for his army; and, before he took this step, he sent off two large detachments to reinforce Broglie. Having received his forage, he repassed both the Roer and the Lippe, and advanced as far as Dulmen; while Broglie, penetrating further into the electorate of Hanover, took possession of Kester, which he fortified, and seemed determined to lay siege to the town of Hamelen. Prince Ferdinand, being greatly inferior in number, retired to Dumolt, and called in most of his detachments. The French general encamped in his neighbourhood, on the heights of
I MIVIX Neim,

Neim, and many skirmishes happened; in one of which prince Henry, brother to the hereditary prince of Brunswick, was mortally wounded. About the middle of August an advantage was gained at Cassel by general Luckner, who attacked and routed a body of the enemy, from whom he took a considerable number of men and horses.

Mareschal Broglie having crossed the Weser with his whole army, as if he had intended to fall upon the city of Hanover, prince Ferdinand made a forced march, passed the Dymel, and advanced to Cassel. This movement obliged the French general to retire with the greater part of his army: then prince Ferdinand, proceeding to Paderborn, established his head quarters at Buhne, from whence he extended his forces towards Hamelen. Broglie once more passed the Weser, encamped near Eimbeck, and laid the whole country under contribution. In the mean time, Soubise having erected his ovens at Dorsten, and garrisoned the place with one battalion, the hereditary prince found means to attack and reduce the town, to make prisoners of the garrison, to destroy the ovens, and burn the magazines there provided: an exploit, in consequence of which the prince de Soubise retreated to the other side of the Lippe; but he soon re-

100 *The History of* ENGLAND.

passed that river, and advanced again towards Caëfelt, from whence his detachments over-ran all the northern parts of Westphalia.

While prince Ferdinand lay encamped at Willhemstall in the neighbourhood of Hamelen, and the hereditary prince at the head of a detachment scoured the open country of Hesse Cassel, the marshal Broglio, made reprisals in the Hartz, where he reduced and dismantled the strong castle of Schutzfels, and made the garrison prisoners of war. A detachment, commanded by his brother the count de Broglio, and prince Xavier of Saxony, having made a forced march, took possession of Wolfenbüttele, and then laid siege to Brunswick; but before they could reduce this city, the hereditary prince being joined by general Luckner, flew to the relief of his father's capital. At his approach they relinquished their enterprize, and retired out of Wolfenbüttele with such precipitation as to leave some of their cannon behind, and about five hundred men, who were taken.

Towards the end of September, a detachment from the army of Soubise, commanded by the marquis de Conflans, advanced to the gates of Embden, which was garrisoned by two companies of English
in-

invalids, who obtained an honourable capitulation, and embarked for Bremen: then the French troops laid the town under contribution, and evacuated the place; but the boors of the country rising in arms, and sinking the pontoons on which the enemy had passed the river, the French general sent a second detachment, which brought off the first, after having dispersed and hanged some of the peasants in terrorem. Another party from the army of Soubise entered the city of Osnabrug, which the soldiers were permitted to pillage, as the inhabitants could not pay the exorbitant contribution which was demanded. A third made an attempt upon Bremen; but the inhabitants joining the garrison, obliged the French to retreat with precipitation; and they were afterwards reinforced by two battalions of the British legion, the better to secure the magazines deposited in that place for the use of the allied army.

In the mean time Broglio lay inactive at Eimbeck, without attempting any thing of importance; nor was he at all disturbed in his position until the beginning of November, when prince Ferdinand had concerted a plan for attacking him suddenly, before he could call in his detachments; or, at least, to intercept and cut off a large body

102 *The History of* ENGLAND.

of fifteen battalions posted at Eschershausen, under the command of Mons. de Chabot. For this purpose he ordered the hereditary prince and general Luckner, reinforced by the garrison of Wolfenbüttele, to advance from their respective posts, so as to be in the neighbourhood of Eimbeck at a certain hour on the fifth of November. He commanded the marquis of Granby to force the French post at Cappelnhagen on the fourth : to proceed next day to Wickenfen, and block up a defile in that neighbourhood, on the road from Eschershausen to Eimbeck. He sent general Hardenberg with a detachment to pass the Weser at Badenwerder, that he might at the appointed time take possession of a defile at Amelunxborn, on the other road from Eschershausen to Eimbeck.

Having taken the necessary precautions, he himself, with the main body of his army, crossed the Weser on the fourth near Hastenbeck, and advanced towards Eimbeck ; but, when he approached Wickenfen, he found the road occupied by a strong body of British grenadiers and Highlanders : for the marquis of Granby had gallantly forced the enemy's post at Cappelnhagen, and blocked up the defile by the hour appointed. Chabot, perceiving himself intercepted, retreated

treated immediately towards Escherhausen, and struck into the other road to Eimbeck, which general Hardenberg had been ordered to secure : but in his march to Badenwerder some of his pontoons were overturned, and this accident retarded him so long, that he did not arrive at the place appointed until seven in the morning ; and by that time Chabot had passed the defile in his way to Eimbeck, which he reached at noon, without further interruption. Thus the plan miscarried ; and this must frequently be the fate of such schemes as depend upon a variety of incidents.

Prince Ferdinand, notwithstanding the disappointment, advanced toward the French camp, which he found too strong to be attacked with any prospect of success. Then he resolved to turn their flank, as if he designed to cut off their communication with Gottingen ; a motion, which, he knew, would either bring Broglie to an engagement on equal terms, or oblige him to retreat. The last part of the alternative he chose to embrace, and on the ninth retired with his whole army. This was the last transaction of any consequence that happened between the opposite armies in Westphalia. Broglie quartered his forces in Cassel, and that neighbourhood. The troops of
Soubise

Soubise were distributed at Dusseldorp, and along the Lower Rhine. The allies fixed their quarters at Hildersham, Munster, Hamelen, and Eimbeck. The British cavalry wintered in East Friesland, and the infantry in the bishopric of Osnabrug.

We have already observed, that the last campaign had ended more to the advantage of his Prussian majesty than the preceding one had done; for those two great victories of Lignitz and Torgau, with which he then closed his operations, had not only rescued his affairs in Silesia and Saxony from impending destruction, but had enlarged his field for recruiting, and prepared him, in all appearance, for more early and vigorous action, than could have been expected in any of the foregoing campaigns. But every one was surprised to observe, that this year he had altered the system of his conduct. An inactivity and languor was diffused over all his operations. He seemed to have adopted the caution and slowness, which had been so long opposed to his vivacity by M. Daun. The summer was almost wholly spent, and the king of Prussia had scarcely been mentioned. Whatever was the cause of this inactivity, whether it proceeded from the difficulty of providing forage, or from an opinion entertained by his

his Prussian majesty, that it was most for his interest to remain on the defensive, we shall not pretend to determine. Certain it is, he himself, with one part of his forces, continued quietly in a very strong camp in Upper Silesia, while his brother prince Henry, with the other, was no less securely posted under the walls of Leipzig, in the neighbourhood of count Daun the Austrian general.

While the main armies were thus disposed, their partizans exerted themselves, as usual, in bold and sudden incursions. In the beginning of April the Prussian majors-general Schenkendorff and Sybourg, advancing with a body of troops from Gera towards Neustadt on the Orla, continued their march to Saalfeld, where they attacked an Austrian detachment commanded by general Kleist, who was routed with considerable loss. They likewise dislodged a body of the army of the Empire from the village of Schwartz, which they had secured with two battalions, as a post of importance. In this expedition the Prussians took several pieces of cannon, colours, waggons loaded with baggage and ammunition, and above eleven hundred men, including two and thirty officers. After this exploit, the Prussian generals sent a detachment to attack
the

the corps under general Gualco near Plaune in Voightland, who, after a sharp dispute, was forced to retire with the loss of four pieces of cannon, and all his baggage. Other petty advantages of the same kind were obtained in the beginning of summer by the Prussian detachments; but the king in person undertook nothing of consequence in the field.

In Pomerania the Swedes were not in motion till the month of August, when prince Henry, having received information that they had begun to advance towards the Prussian territories, detached general Stutterheim to join colonel Belling in that country with a few battalions, at whose approach the enemy retreated. It was in the beginning of the same month, that the army of the empire advancing in Saxony as if they designed to attack Leipzig, prince Henry sent general Seydlitz with a detachment of seven thousand men, who fell upon them with such impetuosity, that they were obliged to give way, and retreated with great precipitation to a considerable distance from the Prussian cantonments, which they never afterwards presumed to approach.

The Russian ministry, having been long sensible of the inconveniencies to which their operations were subject from their great dis-

distance from the scene of action, determined, if possible, to reduce Colberg, which would serve as a magazine and a key to Pomerania. With this view general Romanzoff was detached, in the month of July, with a considerable body of forces to invest that fortress by land, while it should be blocked up by sea by a strong squadron, in which an additional number of troops with the artillery and warlike stores were transported. This was joined by the Swedish fleet in August, and Romanzoff began to cannonade the place ; but, as he did not open the trenches in a regular manner ; as the town was strongly fortified and defended by a numerous garrison, under the command of an accomplished officer ; as the Russians were little accustomed to sieges, and the season was pretty far advanced ; the Prussian monarch hoped it would hold out until the frost should set in, and render the approaches of the enemy impracticable. The Swedes, at the same time, seemed to second the operations of their allies. Their army in western Pomerania, having received a reinforcement, began to advance again toward the Prussian territories, and skirmished with Stutterheim ; but no enterprize of importance was undertaken on either side.

The

The main Russian army, commanded by Butturlin, could not take the field till the season was far advanced. In May, however, a detachment marched towards Silesia without artillery, and formed a camp at Bojanovo: another body established a considerable magazine at Posen; a third, under count Tottleben, entered Pomerania in the beginning of June, and made a furious attack upon Belgarde, from whence he was repulsed with considerable loss. After this miscarriage, he sent out detachments as far as the frontiers of the New Marche, where they took possession of Landsberg upon the Wartha. In the month of August, while the head-quarters of the Prussian monarch were at Strehlen, the Russian general Czernicheff advanced, with the van-guard of that army, to Wohlan; and the Cossacks, with other light troops, passing the Oder, ravaged the country in the neighbourhood of Jauer. Another detachment, more powerful, penetrated into Silesia as far as Breslau, and began to cannonade that capital: but lieutenant general Tawsein, who commanded the garrison, being reinforced by a body of troops under major-general Knoblock, marched out of the place, and attacked the enemy with such resolution, that they abandoned their batteries and decamped.

ed, after having suffered considerable damage.

At length general Butturlin advanced with the grand army of the Russians : and, notwithstanding all the vigilance and activity of the Prussian king, whose motions and measures for some time prevented their junction with the Austrian army under Laudohn, this was in the end effected ; and now his affairs seemed altogether desperate. Yet, far from being abandoned by his wonted fortitude, he had recourse to expedients, which seem to have disappointed the designs of his enemies. He detached a considerable body of forces into Poland under the command of general Platen, whose motions were conducted with such secrecy and expedition, that he had burned three Russian magazines in that kingdom, before the object of his march was known ; and the great magazine at Posen narrowly escaped the same fate. Immediately after this achievement, general Butturlin separated the main body of his army from the Austrians, and retreated towards Poland : yet he left general Czernicheff with a considerable body of forces to act in concert with Laudohn, who, about this juncture, distinguished himself by an extraordinary exploit,

which proved very detrimental to the Prussian monarch's affairs.

Scheweidnitz, which had changed masters more than once in the course of this war, he considered as the most valuable place that remained to him in Silesia. It was central in its situation, strongly fortified, and contained a great magazine of military stores and artillery. Laudohn laid a plan for reducing it by surprize, and it was soon crowned with unexpected success. On the first day of October, at three in the morning, the troops allotted for this service advanced to the attack in four different places, and, under the favour of a thick fog, not only approached, but even fixed their scaling ladders, before they were discovered by the garrison, who scarce had time to fire a few cannon at the assailants. The contest, however, was maintained for some time with small arms, until a powder magazine in one of the outworks blew up, and about three hundred men on each side were destroyed by the explosion. The Austrians, taking advantage of the confusion produced by this accident, advanced to the body of the place, and bursting open the gates, entered the town without much opposition. At day-break they found themselves masters of the place; and the governor,

nor, lieutenant-general Zastrow, with all his garrison, amounting to three thousand men, were made prisoners. Thus Laudohn, at the expence of about six hundred men, who fell in the attack, took above five times that number; and made himself master of a strong important fortress, in which he found a vast magazine of meal, and a numerous train of artillery. The king of Prussia could not but severely feel this stroke, which was equal to a defeat in the open field: but he bore his loss with fortitude, contenting himself with declaring, he would suspend his opinion of Zastrow's conduct, until he should be better informed of the particulars. In the 'mean time, this event obliged him to alter his position, and draw nearer to Breslau.

In the beginning of December he there cantoned his army, and the Austrian forces were quartered in the neighbourhood of Scheweidnitz. Immediately before the king repaired to Breslau, he had the good fortune to discover a conspiracy, which was formed against his person by the baron de War-kotch, a man of considerable rank and fortune in Silesia, and one Francis Schmedt, a priest. Their intention was to seize the king when he should come forth unattended, and conduct him to the Austrian camp; a scheme, in

112 *The History of* ENGLAND.

which it is confidently affirmed, they were both encouraged and assisted by the court of Vienna. The discovery was made by one of the baron's domestics, who, being intrusted with a letter from the baron to the ecclesiastic, and suspecting the contents, delivered it to the Prussian monarch. Thus the mystery was unravelled: a detachment, was immediately sent to apprehend the baron, and seize all his papers. Both were accordingly secured; but he afterwards found means to escape through a window. His lady was, however, detained in custody. Schmedt having likewise consulted his safety by flight, the king caused them to be cited to appear by the twenty-first day of January, to answer to the charge brought against them, on pain of forfeiting their lives and estates.

In the month of November the marshal count Daun, having received a large reinforcement from the army of Laudohn, formed a plan for attacking the strong camp of prince Henry of Prussia, in the neighbourhood of Meissen. An attempt was accordingly made, and some of the Prussian advanced posts were carried; but the enemy soon met with such a vigorous resistance, that their general thought proper to abandon the enterprize, and return to his camp.

He

He then cantoned his forces, in the neighbourhood of Dresden, while the Imperial army was put into quarters at Naumburg and Zwickaw. These motions induced prince Henry to distribute his troops also in quarters of cantonment, extending on the right, to Meissen, and on the left, to Katzenhauſen.

The great Russian army retreated beyond the Viſtula; but the corps under Romanzoff ſtill continued before Colberg, notwithstanding all the efforts of the prince of Wurtemberg, whom the king of Pruſſia had ſent to head his forces in Pomerania. The blockade had for ſome time been turned into a regular ſiege; and colonel Heyde who commanded the garrison, made a very obſtinate defence. In the beginning of October, the boiſterous weather obliged the Swedish ſquadron to retire. A Russian ſhip of the line was wrecked, and all the crew perished: their hoſpital ſhip was accidentally ſet on fire and deſtroyed: in a word, the Russian fleet likewise withdrew, and returned to Cronſtadt; and then the garrison of Colberg received a large ſupply of proviſion from Stetin. Theſe circumſtances concurring with the ſeverity of the ſeaſon, it was thought would compel even the Russians to quit the field, and at any rate render the

112 *The History of* ENGLAND.

which it is confidently affirmed, they were both encouraged and assisted by the court of Vienna. The discovery was made by one of the baron's domestics, who, being intrusted with a letter from the baron to the ecclesiastic, and suspecting the contents, delivered it to the Prussian monarch. Thus the mystery was unravelled: a detachment was immediately sent to apprehend the baron, and seize all his papers. Both were accordingly secured; but he afterwards found means to escape through a window. His lady was, however, detained in custody. Schmedt having likewise consulted his safety by flight, the king caused them to be cited to appear by the twenty-first day of January, to answer to the charge brought against them, on pain of forfeiting their lives and estates.

In the month of November the marshal count Daun, having received a large reinforcement from the army of Laudohn, formed a plan for attacking the strong camp of prince Henry of Prussia, in the neighbourhood of Meissen. An attempt was accordingly made, and some of the Prussian advanced posts were carried; but the enemy soon met with such a vigorous resistance, that their general thought proper to abandon the enterprize, and return to his camp.

He

He then cantoned his forces, in the neighbourhood of Dresden, while the Imperial army was put into quarters at Naumburg and Zwickaw. These motions induced prince Henry to distribute his troops also in quarters of cantonment, extending on the right, to Meissen, and on the left, to Katzenhausen.

The great Russian army retreated beyond the Vistula; but the corps under Romanzoff still continued before Colberg, notwithstanding all the efforts of the prince of Wurtemberg, whom the king of Prussia had sent to head his forces in Pomerania. The blockade had for some time been turned into a regular siege; and colonel Heyde who commanded the garrison, made a very obstinate defence. In the beginning of October, the boisterous weather obliged the Swedish squadron to retire. A Russian ship of the line was wrecked, and all the crew perished: their hospital ship was accidentally set on fire and destroyed: in a word, the Russian fleet likewise withdrew, and returned to Cronstadt; and then the garrison of Colberg received a large supply of provision from Stetin. These circumstances concurring with the severity of the season, it was thought would compel even the Russians to quit the field, and at any rate render the

114 *The History of* ENGLAND.

prosecution of the siege impracticable; but Romanzoff seemed to set the winter at defiance, and carried on his operations with unremitting vigour, until he made himself master of a small fort that commanded the harbour. By means of this acquisition he cut off the garrison of Colberg from all communication by sea; so that they were in danger of perishing by famine, when colonel Heyde surrendered, on the seventeenth day of December. This important conquest enabled the Russian ministry to supply and reinforce their armies in Germany by sea. It likewise secured to them all the eastern part of Pomerania, where accordingly Romanzoff's forces were distributed for the winter; his own head-quarters being established at Stargat, about twenty miles from Stetin.

Before we conclude the foreign transactions of this year, it may not be improper to take notice of an accident, that fully demonstrates the extreme regard, which the Christian powers pay to the Ottoman Porte. In the course of the preceding year, a large Turkish ship of the line, called the Ottoman Crown, was seized by the Christian slaves on board, who rose upon the Turks, and, having overpowered them, brought the ship into Malta; where, according to custom

custom, the prize was divided among the captors. The Porte demanded the restitution of the ship in the most insolent terms; and the knights of Malta, who are at perpetual war with the infidels, treated this demand with contempt. The grand signior, incensed at the refusal, sent a public manifesto to Naples by the capuchins of Tunis, in which he bitterly complained of the Maltese knights, and threatened their total extirpation; at the same time he began to equip a formidable fleet of ships and galleys: but as he caused large quantities of warlike stores to be transported by the Black Sea to the mouth of the Danube, and a rumour prevailed that he had lately concluded a treaty of alliance with the Prussian monarch, certain powers suspected that he harboured some other design, under the pretext of an armament against Malta. The empress queen of Hungary, to avoid any occasion of giving umbrage to the grand signior, forbade all the knights of Malta residing in her dominions, to repair to the defence of that island, in case it should be attacked: a circumstance that plainly evinces the extreme awe, in which the court of Vienna stood of the Ottoman Porte. The French king acted with no less caution and still more delicacy and prudence

dence. He purchased the Turkish ship which had been taken, and sent it to Constantinople as a present to the sultan. It was protected in the voyage by the British cruisers ; and the grand signior was pleased to signify that he was fully satisfied.

While the war raged, with uncommon violence, in almost every quarter of the universe, a negociation was set on foot for putting an end to the troubles, which had so long distracted the several nations of Europe. We have already observed, that the contending powers had agreed to open a general congress at Augsbourg ; and the British plenipotentiaries were actually nominated for this purpose ; when the French king made proposals of a separate pacification with England, under the mediation of the Spanish monarch. The count d'Affry, ambassador from France at the Hague, had several conferences on this subject with general York, the British minister ; but these proving abortive, and the issue of the congress being distant and uncertain, the court of Versailles took an extraordinary step to accomplish an immediate accommodation with England. A memorial of his most Christian majesty was, in the month of March, transmitted by the hands of prince Gallitzin, the Russian ambassador at London,

don, to Mr. secretary Pitt, with a letter from the duc de Choiseul, the French minister, signifying, that the king of France hoped the frank and ingenuous manner, in which he proposed to treat with his Britannic majesty, would banish all suspicion and mistrust from the negotiation, and engage the king of England to disclose his real sentiments, either with regard to the continuation of the war, or the re establishment of peace. He likewise declared, that, with respect to the king of Prussia, his master's allies were determined to act at the future congress, according to the dictates of justice and good faith, sincerely disposed to promote the interests of humanity, and restore the peace of Europe. The French king, in his memorial, expressed his desire that the particular accommodation between France and England should be united with the general pacification of Europe; but, as the objects of the war between France and England were totally foreign to the disputes in Germany, he thought it would be necessary to agree with his Britannic majesty upon certain principal points which should form the basis of their particular negotiation. In order to avoid the delays, which a minute and tedious discussion of particular circumstances might occasion, he proposed that the

two crowns should continue in possession of what they should have conquered from each other in different parts of the world, at the following periods of time ; in the East-Indies, on the first day of September in the present year ; in the West-Indies and Africa, on the first of July ; and in Europe, on the first of May : but, as these terms might be thought either too near or too remote ; and the king of England might be of opinion that compensations should be made in whole, or in part, for the reciprocal conquests of the two crowns ; he would willingly agree to a negociation on these subjects ; his chief aim being to demonstrate his hearty desire of removing all obstacles which might obstruct the salutary object of peace.

These proposals met with a favourable reception at the court of London. Mr. secretary Pitt wrote an immediate answer to the duc de Choiseul, expressing his master's sincere desire to correspond with the pacific sentiments of his most Christian majesty. At the same time he declared, that the king of England was determined to support the interest of the Prussian monarch and his other allies, with the cordiality and efficacy of a sincere and faithful ally. This letter was accompanied with a memorial, in which his Britannic majesty acknowledged, that the ob-

objects, which occasioned the war between England and France, were totally foreign from the disputes in Germany. He agreed, that the two crowns should remain in possession of the conquests they had made upon each other; but he objected to the dates prescribed, and justly observed, that no epochas could as yet be fixed for the signing of the treaty. Nevertheless, he declared he should be glad to see, in London, a person duly authorized by his most Christian majesty, to enter, with the British ministers, into a final discussion of these points, so essential to the interests of the two nations. Accordingly, in the course of the correspondence between the two secretaries, it was agreed, that the sieur de Buffy, who had formerly resided in a public character at London, should be appointed minister, and repair to that court in order to conduct the negociation; while Mr. Stanley should act at Versailles in the same capacity. In the mean time several letters and memorials were interchanged between the two courts.

It was in the month of May that Mr. Stanley crossed the sea from Dover to Calais, and at the same time M. de Buffy arrived at London. His instructions were to adhere to the *uti possidetis*, as the basis of the treaty; to demand an explanation of his Britannic
ma-

120 *The History of* ENGLAND.

majesty's sentiments touching the dates or æras at which the possessions of the two crowns should be fixed; to declare to the court of London, that, as the war between France and England was entirely detached from that which had broke out between the empress queen of Hungary and the king of Prussia, his most Christian majesty, excepting Wesel and Gueldres which belonged to the queen, was at liberty to withdraw his troops from the city of Gottingen, the landgraviate of Hesse, and the county of Hanau; and that this evacuation should be made on two conditions; namely, that the court of England should give security that the army commanded by prince Ferdinand of Brunswic should be disbanded, and no longer serve against the allies of France; and that his Britannic majesty should agree to such restitutions on his part, as might be judged equivalent to this proposed evacuation.

In the conferences which ensued at London and Versailles, the French ministers continued to press a specification of the æras, at which the two nations should be entitled to the *uti possidetis*; and the discussion of this point the English negociators avoided, until the citadel of Belleisle was reduced. Then the English ministry declared by a memorial, in explicit terms, that the first of July,

July, September, and November next ensuing, should be the established æras, after which all the conquests that might be made on either side, should be mutually restored: but, to these æras, the king of England agreed only on the following conditions: That every thing settled between the two crowns, in relation to their particular disputes, should be finally conclusive and obligatory, independent of the negotiations of Augsburg, for adjusting and terminating the contests of Germany; and that the definitive treaty of peace between Great-Britain and France, or at least the preliminaries, should be concluded, signed, and ratified by the first of August. With regard to the ulterior compensations to be made, he desired to know the sentiments of the French king on that subject, promising to explain himself with the utmost freedom and sincerity.

The ministry of Versailles undertook to deliver a memorial of propositions in form, to the court of London. In the mean time they signified to Mr. Stanley, that France would guarantee to England the possession of Canada, provided England would restore the island of Cape Bréton, and confirm the right of French subjects to take and cure fish in the Gulph of St. Laurence, as well

as on the banks, and in the island of Newfoundland: that the fortifications of Louisbourg should be demolished, and the harbour laid open: that Minorca should be restored to Great Britain, in exchange for the island of Guadalupe and Mariegalante: that, with respect to the East India affairs, the treaty concluded in the year 1755, between the sieur Godcheu and governor Saunders, should be confirmed: that in Africa, either Senegal or Goree should be restored to France; on which consideration the French king should evacuate Gottingen, Hesse Cassel, and the county of Hanau; withdraw his troops to the Rhine and the Maine, and leave no forces in Germany, but a number equal to that of the enemy which should remain in the British army assembled in Westphalia. These articles were by no means agreeable to the English ministry, who, by the mouth of Mr. Stanley declared, that his Britannic majesty would not restore the island of Cape Breton upon any condition whatsoever; and that France, in consideration of being allowed to fish on the banks of Newfoundland, should consent to the demolition of Dunkirk. At the same time they rejected the proposal relating to Senegal and Goree. France complained that this demand concerning

cerning Dunkirk, was altogether foreign to the negociation, which was founded on the *uti possidetis*; and looked like a design to take advantage of her eagerness after peace; though, in fact, it was no more than obliging her to fulfill an article of the treaty of Utrecht, which she had never yet performed: conscious, therefore, of this breach of faith, and sensible that the fortifications in question were of too little consequence to obstruct the establishment of peace, she at last thought proper to agree to the proposal.

In her memorial, dated on the fifteenth of July, she offered to cede and guarantee to England, all Canada without restriction, on these conditions: that the inhabitants of that country should enjoy liberty of conscience, and publicly profess their religion according to the rites of the catholic church: that such as were inclined to quit that country, might retire to the French colonies with all manner of freedom and safety; that they should be allowed to sell their estates, and transport their effects, without lett or molestation; and the English government should supply them with the means of conveyance at the most reasonable expence: that the limits of Canada and Louisiana should be ascertained in such

a manner, as to prevent all possibility of disputes on this subject, after peace should be re-established: that France should, as formerly, enjoy a share of the cod-fishery on the banks of Newsoundland; and as this privilege would be of no signification without some harbour for the protection of her fishermen, the king of England should restore Cape Breton; in which case no fortification of any kind should be raised in any part of that island: that France should restore to Great Britain the island of Minorca, and St. Philip's fort, with all the artillery found in it at the time of its reduction; in consideration of which, the king of England should agree to the restitution of Guadalupe and Mariegalante, in the same condition as when they were subdued: that, with respect to the neutral islands, Dominica, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Tobago, the two first should remain in possession of the Caribbee Indians, under the protection of France, according to the treaty concluded in the year 1660; otherwise, that the four islands should remain absolutely neutral; or that only the two possessed by the Caribbees, should be declared neutral; while England took possession of Tobago, and France occupied St. Lucia; that the East India companies of
the

the two nations should mutually refrain from hostilities, and the treaty mentioned above serve as the basis of a new pacification in Asia : that, as the French colonies in South America could not subsist without negroes, which were furnished from the settlements of Senegal and Goree ; and as it was of no advantage to Great Britain to possess both these settlements, one of them should be given up and guaranteed to France by his Britannic majesty : that Belleisle, with its fortifications and artillery, should be restored ; in consideration of which the French king should withdraw his army from Germany, leaving the navigation of the Maine free and open, and entirely evacuating the countries of Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, and Hanau ; but these evacuations should be preceded by a cessation of hostilities between the two crowns, to take place on the day of the ratification of the preliminaries or articles of the definitive treaty, not only in Germany, but in all other parts of the world : that no part of the army commanded by prince Ferdinand of Brunswic, should, on any pretence whatsoever, join the troops of the king of Prussia, or act offensively against the empress-queen or her allies ; and, in like manner, no body of French forces should assist the empress-queen or her

allies against the allies of Great-Britain : that, after the evacuations proposed, the army commanded by the mareschal de Broglie, should retire and occupy Frankfort on the Maine, while that under the mareschal de Soubise should retreat to Wesel and Gueldres, on the lower Rhine : that, as the king of Prussia's dominions on the Lower Rhine had been conquered for the empress-queen, and the towns were actually governed in her name, the French king could not undertake to evacuate them, without the consent of that princess ; but this point should be discussed in the congress of Augs- burg ; nevertheless, he would engage, whenever his Britannic majesty should think proper to recall his national troops from Germany, to withdraw double the number of French troops from the Higher and Lower Rhine, and leave no more in those countries than should be proportioned to the number there retained in the pay of Great Britain : that all further conquests, which might be made by either power before the ratification of the treaty, should be restored without difficulty or compensation : that the captures, which England made by sea before the declaration of war, formed an object of restitution, which the French king would gladly submit to the justice of his

his Britannic majesty, and the determination of English courts of judicature: that subjects trading under the faith of treaties, and under the protection of the law of nations, ought not to suffer from misunderstandings which might arise in the cabinets of princes, before these misunderstandings were publicly known: that the practice of declaring war was established by the law of nations, to make subjects acquainted with the quarrels of their sovereigns, that they might take care of their persons and effects; without which notice there would be no public safety, and every individual must be in fear and danger the moment he passed the confines of his own country: that, if these principles were incontestible, it would be proper to compare the time when the captures were made, with the date of the declaration of war; and no prize taken anterior to this declaration could be deemed legal, without overturning the most sacred of human institutions: that, should it be alledged they were made by way of reprisal, for hostilities which the French had committed in America, this objection was anticipated by observing, that there was no sort of affinity between hostilities pretended to be commenced at Fort du Quesne on the Ohio, and ships taken trading among the islands

islands of the West Indies : that such hostilities might be the motives for declaring war ; but the effects could not take place before that declaration was published ; and it would be unjust to aggrieve innocent individuals, ignorant of the facts and circumstances of remote hostilities which had kindled the flames of a general war between two nations : that moved by these considerations, the French king demanded an indemnification for his subjects, for the losses they had sustained before the commencement of the war, without pretending to reclaim his own ships of war taken before that declaration : finally, that he would guarantee the succession of the present royal family to the throne of Great Britain ; and that immediately after the ratification of the peace, the prisoners on both sides should be set at liberty, and re-conveyed to their own country without ransom.

Together with this memorial, monsieur de Bussy delivered to the English ministry, another of a very singular nature, importing, that the disputes subsisting between Spain and England gave his most Christian majesty cause to apprehend a new war in Europe and America, unless they could be now adjusted : that the Spanish monarch had communicated to him the three points of
dis-

discussion, namely, the restitution of some ships taken in the course of the present war, under Spanish colours; the liberty claimed by the Spanish nation to fish on the banks of Newfoundland; and the destruction of the settlements made by the English on the Spanish territories in the Bay of Honduras: that besides these points, the court of Madrid had lately informed the French king, that they had pretensions to the neutral islands, which they would not fail to explain upon a proper occasion. His most Christian majesty, therefore, passionately desired that these differences might be amicably terminated; and that the king of Spain should be invited to guarantee the treaty between the two crowns; because, should they kindle up a new war, he should be obliged to perform his engagements to his allies.

What was the motive of the French ministry in delivering this memorial; whether it proceeded from a real desire of establishing a firm peace in Europe, or rather, as was shrewdly suspected by some politicians, was artfully calculated to exasperate the court of Madrid against that of London, we shall not pretend to determine. Certain it is, the ministers of France had long been employing all their art and influence to inspire the Spanish monarch with jealousy
at

at the growing power of Great-Britain, her absolute empire at sea, and her extensive conquests in America; and it is equally certain that these intrigues were, at length, productive of the desired effect. The two French memorials were accompanied by a third paper, intimating, that the empress-queen had consented to a particular peace between France and England, on these terms, and these only: That France should, for her benefit, keep possession of the countries belonging to the king of Prussia: that the king of Great-Britain, elector of Hanover, should afford no longer any assistance, either in troops or subsidies, to the Prussian monarch, in like manner as France should be restricted with respect to the empress-queen and her allies. If these proposals were intended to defeat the purpose of the future negociation, they could not have been better contrived. The court of London received them with disdain, as insults upon the dignity and good faith of Great-Britain. Mr. secretary Pitt, in a letter to Mr. Bussy, declared his master would not suffer the disputes with Spain to be blended, in any manner whatever, in the negociation for peace; that the bare mention of such an idea would be considered as an affront; and that the memorial relating to the king
of

of Prussia could not be admitted without derogating from the honour of Great Britain, and that inviolable fidelity with which the king of England was determined to fulfil his engagements with his allies.

A memorial to the same purport, and conceived nearly in the same terms, was transmitted to the court of Versailles. The French ministry, conscious of the impropriety of their conduct, were pleased to make an apology for having interfered in the disputes between England and Spain; and the Conde de Fuentes, who resided as ambassador from Spain at the court of London, delivered a memorial to Mr. Pitt, importing, that the most Christian king, who sincerely wished that the peace now under consideration between France and England, might be rendered of equal utility and duration, communicated, in the beginning, his intentions to his master, expressing the pleasure with which he seized that opportunity to demonstrate his respectful sense of the repeated offers his Catholic majesty had made both to him and England, in order to facilitate a proper and permanent reconciliation: that moved by these motives, so reasonable and sincere, his most Christian majesty proposed to the king, his master, that he should grant his guarantee in the treaty, which might be equally

equally useful to France and England; at the same time testifying the sincerity of his own disposition, with respect to the sacrifices he proposed to make, in order to restore the tranquillity of Europe, by a solid and honourable peace: that these proceedings of his most Christian majesty could not but infinitely oblige the king, his master, who entertained an uniformity of sentiments, ever desirous to fulfill, by the most distinguished correspondence, all the engagements of consanguinity and mutual interest, by which the two monarchs were united; especially as he discovered in the intentions of the king of France, that humanity and greatness of mind so peculiar to him, in seeking to render the peace as permanent as the vicissitude of human affairs would permit: that, with the same candour and sincerity, the king, his master, acquainted his most Christian majesty, that he could have wished the king of Great-Britain had made no difficulty in agreeing to the guarantee connected with the consideration of the grievances subsisting between Spain and England; having all the reason in the world to believe that his Britannic majesty was equally disposed to terminate them in an amicable manner, according to the laws of reason and justice: that this intimation from
his

his master, induced the king of France to communicate to his Britannic majesty the purity of his intentions for the re-establishment of peace, seeing, in proposing the guarantee of Spain, he demonstrated his sincere desire to see those interests compromised: which might one day re-kindle the flames of war, which all parties were now endeavouring to extinguish: that if the intentions of his most Christian majesty, and the king his master, were not both replete with good faith, his master flattered himself that his Britannic majesty would do him the justice to believe his views in particular were strictly so; for, had they referred to any other aim, his Catholic majesty, consulting his own greatness, would have spoke in his own person, according to the dignity of his crown: that he could not forbear telling him, that the king, his master, would be surprised to hear, that the memorial of France had excited in the mind of his Britannic majesty, a sensation entirely opposite to the true intentions of the two sovereigns: that his Catholic majesty, nevertheless, would console himself for this interpretation, by seeing that progress which he had always wished to be made in the negotiation of peace, either separate between France and England, or general between all the bellige-

134 *The History of ENGLAND.*

rent powers; for it was his sincere desire to render it perpetual, by crushing every bud which might unfortunately produce another war: that, for this reason, the king his master flattered himself, that his Britannic majesty, animated by the same sentiments of humanity for the public tranquillity, would continue in the same intentions to terminate the disputes subsisting between England and a power which had given him such repeated proofs of friendship, at the same time that it was proposed to establish peace through all Europe.

M. de Bussy likewise received private instructions to relax in several articles: and in particular was ordered to deliver a memorial concerning the merchant ships taken before the declaration of the war, in which the French ministry endeavoured to prove that these prizes were made in defiance of the law of nations, as well as in direct violation of the treaties concluded at Utrecht.

The English ministry were too much provoked at the insidious conduct of France, and the overbearing behaviour of Spain to pay any regard to these remonstrances. They therefore contented themselves with transmitting to Versailles the following articles, in answer to the ultimatum of France.

"—I.

“—I. The king of Great Britain still insists upon the entire and total cession of Canada and its dependencies, without any limits or exceptions whatsoever ; as also upon the full and final cession of Cape Breton, and all the other islands in the gulph of St. Laurence. Canada, according to the line of its limits traced by the marquis of Vaudreuil himself, when he, as governor general, surrendered that province, by capitulation, to the English general Amherst, comprehends on one side, the lakes Huron, Michigan, and that called Superior ; and the said line, drawn from the Red Lake, embraces by a winding course the river Ouabache to its junction with the Ohio ; from thence extending along this last river, inclusively to its confluence with the Mississippi. According to this definition of the limits by the French governor, the king reclaims the cession of Canada, a province which the court of France have offered a-new in its ultimatum to cede to his Britannic majesty, in the most extensive form, declared in the memorial of the proposals of peace dated on the thirteenth of July. With respect to the public profession and exercise of the Roman-catholic religion in Canada, his Britannic majesty will indulge his new subjects with that liberty, to be enjoyed with-

out interruption or molestation; and the French inhabitants or others who have been subjects to the most Christian king in that country, shall have entire freedom and opportunity to sell their effects, though to British subjects only, and transport them, without being impeded or hindered in their removal, by any person on any pretence whatsoever, except that of debt or civil trespass, provided still that the time granted for his removal, shall be limited to the term of one year, commencing at the ratification of the definitive treaty.—II. As for the line drawn from Rio Perdido, contained in a notification delivered by monsieur de Bussy, on the eighteenth day of August concerning the limits of Louisiana, his majesty cannot but reject such an unexpected proposal, as altogether inadmissible on these accounts: The said line, under colour of fixing the limits of Louisiana, includes in that province extensive countries, which, with the posts and forts that command them, the marquis de Vaudreuil hath surrendered, by the most solemn capitulation, to his Britannic majesty, under the definition of Canada; of consequence, however contentious the respective pretensions of the two crowns might have been before the war, particularly with respect to the course of the
Ohio,

Ohio, and the territories adjacent, all the contending titles are, since the surrender of Canada, and the line of its limits traced by the marquis de Vaudreuil, united, and without contradiction, become valid, in confirming to Great Britain the possession of these countries, together with the other parts of Canada. The line proposed for ascertaining the limits of Louisiana cannot be admitted, because it would comprehend on the side of Carolina, very extensive countries and numerous nations, which have always been considered as under the protection of the king; a connection which his majesty has no intention to renounce, though, for the benefit of peace, he might consent to leave the intermediate countries that are under the protection of Great Britain, more particularly those inhabited by the Cherokees, Creeks, Chickesaws, Chaftaws, and other nations situated between the British settlements and the river Mississippi. —

III. The king refers himself to the third article of the ultimatum of England, touching the cession of Senegal and its dependencies, as well as of the island of Goree, in the most ample manner, as specified in the said article; and his majesty is willing to repeat what has been declared by Mr. Stanley, That if the court of France would sug-

gest any reasonable plan for supplying their subjects with negroes that should not be very prejudicial to the advantages which the British subjects possess in Africa, the king would willingly take it into consideration.

—IV. The important privilege of fishing and curing cod in a certain specified part on the coast of Newfoundland, granted to the subjects of France by the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, hath not been refused by England, but only connected with a reciprocal satisfaction on the part of France, concerning the indispensable object of Dunkirk ; a satisfaction which the king has exacted, and does exact : it is therefore on condition that the town and harbour of Dunkirk shall be reduced to the condition prescribed by the last treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, that his majesty will consent to renew to France, by the future treaty of peace, the privilege of taking and curing fish, by virtue of the treaty of Utrecht, upon the said district of Newfoundland. With respect to the ulterior demand which his Christian majesty has made that his subjects may be allowed to fish in the gulph of St. Lawrence, and there enjoy a harbour without fortifications, subject to the inspection of England, as proposed by the duc de Choiseul, in his conference on that subject with Mr.

Stan-

Stanley, which harbour shall simply serve as a shelter to the French fishing vessels in those seas; the king, in order to convince his most Christian majesty, and all mankind, of his sincere desire after peace, will consent to allow the French subjects to fish in the gulph of St. Laurence, on this express condition; namely, That the said subjects of France shall abstain from that particular fishery upon all the coasts belonging to Great-Britain, either of the continent, or of the islands situated in the said gulph of St. Laurence, which fishery, the possessors only of the said coasts have constantly enjoyed, and always exercised, excepting nevertheless the privilege granted by the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, to the subjects of France, to take and cure cod in a certain specified part upon the coast of Newfoundland, which privilege, it is proposed, shall be renewed to France, as mentioned above. The king will consent to cede to his most Christian majesty, the island of St. Peter, with its harbour; which island, in respect to that part of Newfoundland lying between the bay of Placentia and the bay of Fortune, is situated west, south-west, its harbour opening to the North-east, the interior part of which harbour is called Bourguay: the island

island of St. Peter, which the king is willing to cede, is separated by a small strait from another island, known by the name of Maquelon, or Michelon, to the northward of the said island of St. Peter. But, to the cession of this island, as above, the king will fix four indispensable conditions. 1. France shall not, under any pretext or denomination whatever, build fortifications in the said island, or its harbour, nor maintain troops, nor have any military establishment whatever upon it. 2. The said island and harbour shall serve as shelter only to the fishing vessels of the French nation; and France shall not be at liberty to share the said convenience of shelter with the fishing, or other vessels of any other nation whatsoever. 3. The possession of the island of St. Peter, as above, shall not be deemed in any case to transfer, attribute, or share, in any manner, the trust, right, or privilege of fishing and drying cod in any other part of the coasts of Newfoundland, beyond the district expressly articulated and fixed for that purpose, by the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht; that is to say, “*A loco Cap Bonavista nuncupato, usque ad extremitatem ejusdem insulæ septentrionalem, indeque ad latus occidentale recurrendo, usque ad locum* Pointe-

Pointe Riche appellatum*." 4. By virtue of the cession of the said island, as above, an English commissary shall be at liberty to reside upon the spot; and the commander of the British Squadron at Newfoundland may, from time to time, visit the said island and harbour of St. Peter, to see that the above specified stipulations be duly observed. —

The king consents to restore to his most Christian majesty, 1. The important conquest of Belleisle, with the artillery, &c. found therein at the reduction of the said island. 2. His majesty consents to restore to the most Christian king, the fertile and opulent island of Guadalupe, with that of Mariegalante, and the artillery, &c. there found, at the conquest of the said islands. The island of Minorca, with St. Philip's fort, shall be restored to his Britannic majesty, in the same condition, including the artillery, &c. as when attacked and taken. As to the restitution and evacuation of the conquests made by France upon any of the king's allies in Germany, particularly Wesel, and the other places and territories of the king of Prussia, his majesty still insists upon

* From the place called Cape Bonavista, to the northern extremity of the said island, and thence running westerly to the place denominated Pointe-Riche.

upon what is demanded in relation to that affair, in the seventh article of the ultimatum of England; it being always understood, that all the places, belonging to the king's allies in Germany, shall be restored, with the artillery, &c. found in them at the time of their reduction. With respect to the succours to be furnished by the crown of Great-Britain to his Prussian majesty, as an auxiliary, after the ratification of the separate peace between Great Britain and France, his majesty persists in the same unshaken resolution which he has declared from the first opening of the present negotiation, that he will not cease to succour constantly his ally the king of Prussia, with efficacy and good faith, in order to attain the salutary aim of a general pacification in Germany. In these sentiments, his majesty, far from having proposed that France shall be at liberty to send armies into Silesia, "without being limited to the number stipulated in her actual engagements with the court of Vienna," a proposal to be found in no part of the ultimatum of England, he hath only declared, as the thirteenth article of the said ultimatum shews, that Great Britain and France shall be at liberty to support, as auxiliaries, their respective allies, in the particular dispute for the recovery

covery of Silesia, according to the engagements which each crown has contracted. The king declares, at the same time, that he has neither the intention nor the power to forbid and inhibit any foreign troops from entering into the service and the pay of the king of Prussia, howsoever disposed his majesty might be to consent that he shall not furnish, but in subsidies only, the succours which Great Britain shall think proper, in conformity with her engagements, to afford his Prussian majesty. With respect to the prizes taken after the commencement of hostilities, though before the formality of declaring war, the king persists in his opinion, that such a demand on the part of France, is neither just nor defensible, according to the most incontestible principles of the laws of war and of nations. As to the evacuation of Ostend and Nieuport, the king cannot help referring to the motives founded on the most express and irrevocable stipulations in the most solemn treaties, specified in the eleventh article of the ultimatum of Great Britain, and to his declaration relating to that subject; and his majesty confides in the good faith of the declaration made on the part of his most Christian majesty, in the
ele-

144 *The History of* ENGLAND.

eleventh article of the ultimatum of France, namely, that it never was the intention of his most Christian majesty to keep possession of those places after the re-establishment of peace. With respect to the cessation of hostilities, the king persists entirely in the sentiments expressed in the twelfth article of the British ultimatum. As to the concerns of the French East India company, reference must be had to the ninth article of the ultimatum of England, with respect to which there seems to be no disagreement. In regard to the prisoners of war, the two crowns seem to be entirely agreed.—By this answer the court of France must perceive the rectitude of the king's intentions, as well as the moderation he shews in promoting the means of reconciliation with his most Christian majesty."

In answer to this ultimatum, the French ministry delivered, on the ninth day of September, a new memorial; in which, after the preamble, declaring, that in case the negociation should not succeed, all the concessions made in the course of it should be null and of no effect, they proceeded as follows: "The king has said in his first memorial of proposals, as well as in his ultimatum, that he would cede and guarantee

rantee to England the possession of Canada, in the most extensive form ; his majesty repeats that offer ; and even without discussing the line of limits traced in a chart or map presented by Mr. Stanley ; as the line demanded by England is doubtless the most extensive form that can be given to the cession, the king is willing to grant it, without further question. His majesty had affixed four conditions to his guarantee ; and to these England does not seem averse : the king only thinks the term of one year too short for the emigration of the French and the sale of their effects ; and desires it may be protracted to two years, or eighteen month at least. As the court of England has, in the first article of its answer, relating to the entire and total cession of Canada, as agreed upon between the two courts, added the word *dependencies*, it will be necessary to explain what is meant by the word *dependencies*, that the cession may not produce disputes in the sequel. The first paragraph concerning the limits of Louisiana, contained in the second article of England's answer, is allowed by France : the second paragraph is neither just nor clearly expressed ; it is proposed therefore that it shall be definitively explained in the following terms : " The intermediate Indian nations,

situated between the lakes and the Mississippi, within the line described, shall be neutral and independent, under the protection of the king of France; and those without the line, on the side of the English possessions, shall also be neutral and independent, under the protection of the king of England. The English traders shall not be allowed to visit the Indian nations on either side of the line; but the said nations shall not be abridged of the liberty which they have hitherto enjoyed of trafficking both with French and English." Although France is very sensible how contrary it is to the views of reconciliation, for the party that cedes to propose to the party which has conquered, and means to preserve its conquests, the cession of countries which are not very well known; although this form of proceeding demanded by England, is without doubt subject to numberless difficulties, nevertheless, the king, in order to demonstrate his readiness to embrace every temperament tending to reconcile the two courts, freely declares to England, that he will guarantee to that crown the possession of Senegal and Goree, provided England will guarantee to France the possession of her settlements at Anamaboe and Acra. The fourth article of the answer comprehends

tends several objects. and each enquires a particular explanation. England still joins together the liberty of fishing on part of the island of Newfoundland, stipulated to France in the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, with the ninth article of the same treaty, relating to the demolition of Dunkirk. The fourth and last answer which shall be given to England on this head, is, that these two stipulations in the treaty of Utrecht, have no other affinity, one with another, but that of their being both comprised in the same treaty; and that the concession explained in favour of the French, in the thirteenth article of that treaty, is a compensation for the cession of Newfoundland and Annapolis Royal, made on the part of France to England, by the twelfth and thirteenth articles of the same treaty. But that the two courts may come to a right understanding on this subject, and in order to facilitate the peace, the king consents to demolish the works which have been made for the defence of the harbour of Dunkirk since the beginning of that war, to fill up the basin which would contain ships of war, and destroy the buildings belonging to the rope work; but, at the same time, his majesty will allow the merchant-harbour, which cannot receive even a

N 2

frigate,

148 *The History of* ENGLAND.

frigate, to remain for the mutual advantage of England and France. He will engage that there shall be no maritime, military establishment in that sea port; but he will leave the wet ditch or lunette round the place, which was made for the salubrity of the air and the health of the inhabitants. As to the fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, the king expects that the twelfth article in the treaty of Utrecht shall be confirmed. In regard to the condition proposed by England, concerning the liberty of fishing allowed to belong to the French, in the gulph of St. Laurence, France agrees that, exclusive of the part of Newfoundland prescribed in the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, the French, except in case of accident, shall not come upon the coasts belonging to England, in the gulph of St. Laurence, either to dry their fish or spread their nets: but, bating these two exceptions, the French shall be at liberty to fish without molestation, in every part of the said gulph of St. Laurence. As to the cession of the island of St. Peter, the smallness of that island, and its situation so near Placentia, give the king reason to believe that such a shelter would be altogether illusive, and serve rather to create disputes between the two nations, than faci-

facilitate the fishery of the French subjects. The king had demanded of England the island of Cape Breton or St. John; he had even restricted himself to the inconsiderable island of Canceau, he now repeats the same proposal to his Britannic majesty: or, if the king of England, for reasons unknown in France, cannot agree to the cession of Canceau; it is proposed he shall add to the island of St. Peter, the cession of the island of Maquelon, or Michelin, two islands which, joined together, do not exceed three leagues in extent. Inconsiderable as these settlements are, and though, properly speaking, they form but one island, yet the king will accept of them and even impose upon himself this condition; That there shall not be in either of these islands, nor in Canceau, provided England should part with this last, any military establishment: France will only maintain a guard of fifty men to support the execution of the police, which it will be necessary to maintain in those islands. The king will, as much as possible, considering the weakness of this guard, prevent all foreign vessels, even the English themselves, from going ashore on those islands. France does not pretend to fish and dry cod on the coast of Newfoundland, in any other way but accord-

ing to the stipulation in the thirteenth article of the treaty of Utrecht, provided it be understood that the French have liberty to take and dry their fish on the coast of St. Peter and Michelon. Finally, the king agrees that an English commissary shall reside in the said islands, to see that the conditions stipulated in the treaty shall be punctually fulfilled. The division of the four neutral islands between the two courts, ought to be specified in the preliminaries: France agrees to any division of these islands that shall be proposed by England, provided the island of St. Lucie shall be declared part of the share assigned to France. The king, without staying to dispute particulars, consents to the sixth and seventh article, relating to the restitution of Guadalupe, Margalante, Belleisle and Minorca. As to the eighth article, relating to the evacuation of places in Germany, the king refers to the seventh article of the ultimatum. It is not in his power to evacuate the countries belonging to his ally the empress-queen. The ninth article of England's answer requires explanation; for it is couched in such a manner, that the sense of it is not easily understood: it supposes engagements between the king and the empress, and between England and Prussia, which are not

not mutually known to the two courts of Versailles and London. It is not imagined in France, that the king of England has not influence to prevent the allies of his crown, such as the sovereigns of Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, and Brunswic, from joining their troops to those of the king of Prussia; but, without launching into useless discussions, the king, though determined, for the sake of peace, to make the most considerable sacrifices, is at the same time unalterably resolved, to grant nothing in the future treaty of peace, but what shall be conformable to the stipulations by which he is engaged with his allies. It is with their consent and concurrence that the king, in relation to the war of Westphalia, proposed to England the tenth article of the memorial, containing his majesty's proposals, and the seventh and thirteenth articles of the ultimatum of France. The king adheres to these three articles, in answer to the eighth and ninth articles in the answer of England; resolved, nevertheless, to treat upon any new proposals of England, relative to those objects; proposals which shall be communicated to the king's allies, and accepted by his majesty, with the consent of the empress, provided they shall not be contrary to the engagements subsisting between him
and

152 *The History of ENGLAND.*

and that princess. — France is still of opinion, that the king's proposals, relating to the prizes taken from his subjects before the declaration of war, are so just, that he is obliged to support them, and refers himself on that head, to the twelfth article of his proposals. The king, after the signing of the treaty, or even of the preliminaries, will deliver to the king of England a paper signed with his own hand, containing a declaration, that it never was his intention to unite the towns of Ostend and Nieuport to his dominions. France will agree to the terms proposed for a cessation of hostilities, provided they are such as cannot be disadvantageous to either crown. France adopts the negociation between the East India companies of the two nations, on condition that it shall be terminated at the same time as that of the two crowns; for this purpose, they shall name their commissioners, and begin their negociation without loss of time. The fourteenth article, relating to the exchange of prisoners, will meet with no difficulty: but the court of England will do justice to the considerable advances made by France in this memorial, in order to facilitate a reconciliation between the two crowns.

After

After so many and so very important concessions made by both parties, it is difficult to conjecture, what it was that could possibly have retarded the conclusion of a peace. A discussion of the separate interests of two powers only, who are in earnest to agree, may be soon finished without any considerable difficulty. The hard and almost inextricable part of the knot, is that, in which the cross interests and concerns of allies interfere. There were two points, upon which, if we may form a judgment from appearances, this negotiation unfortunately broke off. The first was upon the manner, in which England and France might be at liberty to assist their respective allies: the second related to the restitution of Wesel, Gueldres, and such other places as the French had conquered from his Prussian majesty.

Not but we are fully satisfied that the disagreement even on these points might be only the apparent cause of the rupture. The true cause of the breach seems to have been the unseasonable interposition of the Spanish claims. For, could France be supposed, in good earnest, to desire peace, that is, to desire such a reasonable peace as her circumstances might demand, when she officiously intermingled with our particular debate the
affairs

affairs of a foreign and neutral power, which had not even the most distant connection with those that were at this time properly under deliberation. It was ridiculous to urge, that this was done from a prudent foresight of future contingencies, and in order to prevent a war which these disputes might possibly occasion. The business was to put an end to the war, which then actually existed; and nothing could be farther from promoting such a design than to multiply the subjects of debate. France herself must have been sensible of the weight of this argument, when she proposed, in the very beginning of the treaty, as a means almost indispensably necessary for carrying it on with effect, that their particular dispute should be separated from those of their German allies, with which it had certainly a more natural connection than with those that subsisted between England and Spain; as all the former parties were at that time, either directly or indirectly engaged in the war, to which, it is well known, Spain had not then the least shadow of relation.

The English ministry, finding the French immoveable on the two capital points above-mentioned, and being further convinced of the insincerity of their procedure, sent directions to Mr. Stanley to return to Eng-

England, and to desire, that Mr. Bussy should, on the part of his court, receive the like orders. Thus, after a negotiation of near six months, an end was put to a treaty, from which Europe had conceived the most sanguine hopes of obtaining a deliverance from her miseries. So far indeed was it from producing the desired effect, so far from appeasing the animosities of the powers originally engaged, or extinguishing the old war, that the parties separated with intentions more hostile and opinions more opposite than ever; and the war was soon spread to a much greater extent by the taking in of a new party, and by laying open new sources of contention, which might gradually draw in other powers, and finally involve every part of Europe. It likewise gave occasion to some changes in England, which, at a time of less tranquillity, and in circumstances of less internal strength, might have been productive of the most fatal consequences.

Mr. Pitt, who then took the lead in the ministry, was fully satisfied, that the intentions of Spain were by no means equivocal, and that the strong partiality, which she had hitherto manifested in favour of the French, would in the end draw her into all the measures of that artful and ambitious people.

He

He said that a war on that account was absolutely unavoidable ; and if, for the present, the Spaniards rather delayed their declaration of war, than laid aside their hostile designs, it was only to strike the blow at their own time, and with the greater force : that, therefore, their reasons for delaying to act were the very motives which ought to induce us to act with the utmost speed and the utmost vigour : that we ought to consider the evasions of that court as a refusal of satisfaction, and that refusal as a declaration of war : that we ought, from prudence, as well as from spirit, to secure to ourselves the first blow ; and to employ the very same measures, which had reduced France to her present extremity, in deterring or disabling Spain from affording her any kind of assistance or protection : that to carry on this war with vigour, it was only necessary to continue our present efforts ; no new armament would be requisite ; and that if any war could provide its own resources, it must be a war with Spain : that their Flota had not yet arrived ; and that the taking of it would, at once, diminish their strength, and add to ours : that this procedure, so suitable to the dignity of the nation, and the insults it had received, would be a lesson to Spain, and to every other power,

how

how they presumed to dictate in our affairs; and to intermeddle with a menacing mediation, and with an officiousness as insolent as it was audacious : and that we ought ever to adhere to this maxim, that we should allow our enemies, whether secret or declared, no time to recollect themselves, or to prepare for defence.

These sentiments, so agreeable to the resolute and enterprising character of this minister, appeared shocking to almost all the rest of his colleagues. They acknowledged, that we ought not to be deterred from the assertion of our rights by the menaces of any power whatever. They owned, that Spain had taken a very extraordinary and a very unjustifiable step ; but that we ought to admit, and even to wish for an explanation : that this court, upon a sober, yet spirited remonstrance, might recall that rash proposition, into which they had, in all likelihood, been unwarily seduced by the artifices of France : that, as to shun war upon a just occasion was cowardice, so to provoke or court it was madness ; and if to court a war was not in general a very wise measure, to desire it with Spain, if possibly it could be avoided, was to overturn the most fundamental principles of the policy of both nations : that this desire of

158 *The History of ENGLAND.*

adding war to war, and enemy to enemy, whilst we had our hands already as full as they could hold, and all our faculties were strained to the utmost, was ill to calculate the national strength of our country, which, however great, had its limits, and was not able to contend with the whole world: that whilst we were calling for new enemies, no mention was made of new allies, nor indeed of any resource whatever: that to plunge into such measures, in the manner proposed, and upon no better grounds, could not fail to scandalize and to alarm all Europe; and we could possibly derive no advantage from this precipitate conduct, which would not be more than counterbalanced by the jealousy and terror it would necessarily create in every neighbouring nation: that as to the seizure of the Flota, it was not to be reckoned upon, as at the very time of their deliberation it might be expected to be safe in its harbour; and perhaps if we could succeed in seizing it, we might perform a service, not very agreeable to neutral nations, and as little advantageous to our own commerce: that if Spain, blind to her true interest, and misled by French councils, should give, in a more decisive manner, into the designs of that court, and obstinately refuse a reason-
able

able satisfaction, it would then be the proper time to declare war, when all the neighbouring and impartial powers were convinced, that we acted with as much temper as resolution, and when every thinking man at home should be satisfied, that he was not hurried into the hazards and expences of war, from an idea of chimerical heroism, but from inevitable necessity; and that, in such a case, we might rationally expect the utmost support which the nation could afford to an administration, that depended upon its strength, and yet dreaded to waste it wantonly, or to employ it unjustly.

The minister, warmed by this opposition, declared, “ that this was the time for
 “ humbling the whole house of Bourbon :
 “ that if this opportunity was let slip, it
 “ might never be recovered ; and if he
 “ could not prevail in this point, he was
 “ resolved that this was the last time he
 “ should sit in that council. He thanked
 “ the ministers of the late king for their
 “ support ; said he was himself called to
 “ the ministry by the voice of the people,
 “ to whom he considered himself as ac-
 “ countable for his conduct ; and that he
 “ would no longer remain in a situation
 “ which made him responsible for measures
 “ he was no longer allowed to guide.”

160 *The History of* ENGLAND.

The noble lord, who presided in the council, to whom years had added to the wisdom of experience without abating the fire and vigour of youth; and who was himself as bold a minister as ever directed the affairs of this nation, made him the following reply: "I find the gentleman is
 "determined to leave us, nor can I say I
 "am sorry for it, since he would otherwise
 "have certainly compelled us to leave
 "him; but if he be resolved to assume the
 "right of advising his majesty, and directing the operations of the war; to
 "what purpose are we called to this council? When he talks of being responsible
 "to the people, he talks the language of the house of commons, and forgets that
 "at this board, he is only responsible to the king. However, though he may
 "possibly have convinced himself of his infallibility, still it remains that we
 "should be equally convinced, before we
 "can resign our understandings to his direction, or join with him in the measure
 "he proposes."

On a division, Mr. Pitt and lord Temple were the only voices in favour of an immediate declaration of war; the rest of the board were unanimously against it. The minister and his colleague, adhering to their
 first

first opinion, and having delivered their reasons in writing proceeded immediately to resign their employments.

Upon this occasion, the great person, to whom the seals were delivered, received them with ease and firmness, and without requesting the minister to resume them. He expressed, indeed, his concern for the loss of so able a servant; and to shew the favourable opinion he entertained of his services, he made him a most gracious and unlimited offer of any rewards in the power of the crown to bestow. His majesty, at the same time, not only declared himself perfectly satisfied with the opinion of the majority of his council, but added, he should have found himself under the greatest difficulty how to have acted, had that council concurred as fully in supporting the measure proposed by Mr. Pitt, as they had done in rejecting it; a sentiment, in the light in which his majesty considered this measure, grounded upon the firmest principles of integrity and honour, and which must have raised the highest veneration for his royal character not only among his own subjects, but among all foreign nations, when they saw a power, which had so little to fear from any human effort, so very fearful of the

the least infringement of the strictest and most critical rules of justice.

Mr. Pitt was sensibly touched with the grandeur and condescension of this proceeding: "I confess Sir," said he, "I had
 " but too much reason to expect your maj-
 " jesty's displeasure. I did not come pre-
 " pared for this exceeding goodness. Par-
 " don me, Sir,——it overpowers, it op-
 " presses me." He burst into tears. We
 are far from attempting to add any colour-
 ing to so exquisitely affecting a picture. We
 are indeed far from being able to do justice
 to perhaps one of the most pathetic and
 elevated scenes that could possibly be dis-
 played, the parting of such a prince and
 such a minister. Next day his majesty gra-
 tified the late secretary with an annual pen-
 sion of three thousand pounds, to be con-
 tinued, even after his decease, during the
 survivancy of his lady and son; and this
 gratuity was accompanied with the title of
 baroness of Chatham to his lady, and that
 of baron to her heirs male: a pension the
 best bestowed, and a nobility the most ho-
 nourably acquired, of any that occurs in
 the English history. Immediately the Ga-
 zette gave notice to the public of all these
 transactions. The resignation made the
 first article; the honours and rewards the
 next;

next; and they were followed by a letter from our ambassador in Spain, containing an account of the favourable and pacific language of that court, and of the assurances they gave of their hearty desire to accommodate all differences in an amicable manner.

It must be owned that this manceuvre was very skilfully executed; for it, at once, gave the people to understand the true motive to the resignation; the insufficiency of that motive; and the graciousness of the prince, notwithstanding the abrupt secession of his minister. If after all this the late minister should chuse to enter into the opposition, he must go into it loaded and oppressed with the imputation of the blackest ingratitude. If, on the other hand, he should retire from business, or should concur in support of that administration which he had left, because he disapproved its measures, his acquiescence would be attributed, by the multitude, to a bargain for his forsaking the public, and the title and the pension would be regarded as the bribes.

These were the barriers that were opposed against that torrent of popular rage, which, it was apprehended, would proceed from this resignation. And the truth is, they answered their end perfectly: this

this torrent was for some time beaten back, and almost diverted into an opposite course; and when afterwards it returned to those objects, against which it was originally directed, and where it was most dreaded, it was no longer that impetuous and irresistible tide, which in the year 1757 had borne down every thing before it: it was weakened, divided and ineffective.

On this occasion the clamorous and inferior members of both parties went lengths, which undoubtedly were neither authorized nor approved by the principal leaders in either. The friends of Mr. Pitt exclaimed loudly against the displacing of a minister, whose measures had raised the nation from the most abject state to the highest pinnacle of glory. They said, that he was in fact displaced, when he was compelled to resign by not being suffered to carry into execution those measures, which he knew to be necessary to the honour and safety of his country. They alledged, that the check, which this minister had received, would most unseasonably revive the drooping spirits of France, sunk by the vigour of our military operations, and the firmness of our councils under his administration, and would shew Spain with what impunity she might insult the honour of the British crown, and invade the
pro-

property of its subjects. And they affirmed, that all the disgraces, which the nation had suffered before Mr. Pitt's admission into the ministry, were entirely owing to the mismanagement of his predecessors, and that all the victories and conquests which we had since obtained, ought to be considered as the fruits of his wisdom and intrepidity.

In consequence of these reasonings, addresses, resolutions, and instructions were set on foot in the great corporations; and the example, it was thought, as on a former occasion, would be followed by all the other cities and boroughs in the kingdom. But the progress of this measure, though commenced with much alacrity, was slow and languid; a few only of the corporations entered into it, and some even of those in a manner less warm than was expected. A strenuous defence was made on the part of the remaining ministry. "Was it ever
"heard," said they, "that a sovereign
"has been censured for listening to the
"voice of his whole council, in opposition
"to the opinion of a single man? On the
"contrary, this uncontrouled sway of a
"single minister has been often thought
"dangerous, and was always odious in our
"free constitution; and is the more justly
"to

166 *The History of* ENGLAND.

“ to be disliked, as perhaps inconsistent
 “ with the true spirit, either of an absolute
 “ monarchy, or of a limited government.
 “ Let the merit of this minister be as great
 “ as it will, shall his master therefore be
 “ forced to receive him upon any terms ?
 “ Must his prince, to gratify his ambitious
 “ views, or, if you please, his virtuous
 “ intentions dismiss his whole council and
 “ annihilate his prerogative as a king, his
 “ reason and judgement as a man ? Was it
 “ ever heard before, that a counsellor has
 “ professed without any reserve or any mask,
 “ that because he could not guide in go-
 “ vernment, he would not co-operate ?
 “ This has unquestionably been the true
 “ motive for the conduct of many mini-
 “ sters, but never was the avowed motive
 “ until this occasion. Mr. Pitt has had the
 “ freest scope for the exertion of his geni-
 “ us ; he has, perhaps, been the only English
 “ minister that never met with the slightest
 “ opposition : let him, in his turn, do that
 “ justice to others which has been done to
 “ himself ; let him, if the favours of the
 “ crown constitute no obligation, be bound
 “ at least by the rules of equity ; and if he
 “ will not partake in the conduct of the
 “ present most intricate and difficult busi-
 “ ness of administration, let him not ren-
 “ der

“ der it still more intricate and more difficult by his opposition ; and let him not study to find a justification of his measures from the ill success of those, whom he has abandoned, when that ill success will be owing to his own devices.”

Thus far the point seems to have been urged with equal propriety and justice. A torrent, however, of low and illiberal abuse was also poured out against the late minister. His whole life, public and private, was scrutinized with the utmost malignity, in order to furnish matter of calumny against him. The successes of his administration were depreciated ; his faults were monstrously exaggerated ; and the rewards and honours, so justly conferred upon him by his sovereign, were by every trick of wit, ridicule and buffoonery, converted into matter of degradation and disgrace*.

With-

* On this occasion Mr. P. is said to have written the following letter to W—B—ck—f—r—d, Esq; then lord-mayor of London.

“ Dear Sir, Oct. 1761.

“ Finding to my great surprise, that the cause and manner of my resigning the seals, are grossly misrepresented in the city, as well as that the most gracious and spontaneous marks of his majesty’s approbation of my ser-

Without presuming to take any part in a controversy, which, however unequally di-

services, which marks following my resignation, have been infamously traduced as a bargain for my forsaking the Public. I am under a necessity of declaring the truth of both these facts, in a manner which I am sure no gentleman will contradict. A difference of opinion with regard to measures to be taken against Spain, of the highest importance to the honour of the crown, and to the most essential national interests, (and this founded on what Spain had already done, not on what that court may farther intend to do) was the cause of my resigning the seals. Lord Temple and I submitted in writing, and signed by us our most humble sentiments to his majesty, which being overruled by the united opinion of all the rest of the king's servants, I resigned the seals on Monday the 5th of this month, in order not to remain responsible for measures which I was no longer allowed to guide. Most gracious public marks of his majesty's approbation of my services followed my resignation: They are unmerited and unsolicited, and I shall ever be proud to have received them from the best of sovereigns.

"I will now only add, my dear Sir, that I have explained these matters only for the honour of truth, not in any view to court return of confidence from any man, who with a credulity, as weak as it is injurious, has thought fit hastily to withdraw his good opinion from one who has served his country with fidelity and success; and who justly reveres the upright and candid judgment of it; little solicitous about the censure of

divided the royal council, or without espousing the sentiments of any faction,
 VOL. XLVIII. P which

of the capricious and the ungenerous : Accept my sincerest acknowledgments for all your kind friendship, and believe me ever, with truth and esteem,

My dear Sir,

Your faithful Friend, &c."

To this letter the lord mayor returned the following answer.

" Dear Sir,

" The city of London, as long as they have any memory, cannot forget, that you accepted the seals when this nation was in the most deplorable circumstances to which any country can be reduced : That our armies were beaten, our navy inactive, our trade exposed to the enemy, our credit, as if we expected to become bankrupts, sunk to the lowest pitch : that there was nothing to be found but despondency at home, and contempt abroad. The city must also for ever remember, that when you resigned the seals, our armies and navies were victorious, our trade secure and flourishing more than in a peace, our public credit restored, and people more ready to lend, than ministers to borrow : that that there was nothing but exultation at home, confusion and despair among our enemies, amazement and veneration among all neutral nations : that the French were reduced so low as to sue for a peace, which we, from humanity, were willing to grant ; tho' their haughtiness was too great, and

which we have always carefully avoided, we may venture to affirm, without the least imputation of partiality, that no man was ever better fitted, than Mr. Pitt to be the minister in a great and powerful nation, or better qualified to carry that power and greatness to the utmost limits. Their was in all his designs a magnitude, and even a vastness, which was not easily comprehended by every mind, and which nothing but suc-

and our successes too many, for any terms to be agreed on. Remembering this, the city cannot but lament that you have quitted the helm. But if knaves have taught fools to call your resignation (when you can no longer procure the same success, being prevented from pursuing the same measures) a desertion of the public, and to look upon you, for accepting a reward, which can scarce bear that name, in the light of a pensioner; the city of London hope they shall not be ranked by you among the one or the other. They are truly sensible, that though you cease to guide the helm, you have not deserted the vessel: and that, pensioner as you are, your inclination to promote the public good, is still only to be equalled by your ability: that you sincerely wish success to the new pilot, and will be ready, not only to warn him and the crew of rocks and quicksands, but to assist in bringing the ship through the storm into a safe harbour.

“These, Sir, I am persuaded, are the real sentiments of the city of London; I am sure you believe them to be such, of,

Dear Sir, yours, &c”

success could have made to appear reasonable. If he was sometimes incorrect, he was never vulgar.

His power, as it was not acquired, so neither was it exercised in any ordinary manner. With very little parliamentary, and with still less court influences he swayed both at court and in parliament, with an authority unknown before to the best supported ministers. He was called to the ministry by the voice of the people; and what was more rare, he held it with that approbation; and under him, administration and popularity were seen united. Under him Great Britain carried on the most important war, in which she was ever engaged, alone, and unassisted, with greater splendour and with more success than she had ever enjoyed at the head of the most powerful alliances. In itself this island seemed to balance the rest of Europe.

In the conduct of the war he never suffered the enemy to breathe, but overwhelmed them with reiterated blows, and kept up the alarm in every quarter. If one expedition was not so well contrived, or so successfully executed, amends was made by another, and by a third. The spirit of the nation, once roused, was not suffered a moment to subside, and the enemy, dazzled, as it were,

by the multitude and celerity of his enterprizes, seemed to have lost all power of resistance. In short, he revived the military genius of our people; he supported out allies; he extended our trade; he raised our reputation; he augmented our dominions; and, on his departure from the administration, he left the nation in no other danger than that, which must ever attend the possession of exorbitant power, and the temptation, which it might create, to the invidious exertion of it. Happy had it been for him, for his sovereign, and for his country, if a temper less austere, and a disposition more gentle, more compliant, and more conciliating, had been joined to his other great virtues. The want of these qualities disabled him from acting any otherwise than alone: it prevented our enjoying the joint fruit of the wisdom of many able men, who might mutually have tempered, and mutually forwarded each other; and finally, which was not the meanest loss, it deprived us of the benefit of his immediate services.

Amidst the ferment produced by Mr. Pitt's resignation, the conduct of the king was steady, resolute, sage, and circumspect, regulated by maxims which equally respected the dignity of his crown, and the dic-
tates

tates of political discretion. - Without deigning to interpose in the disputes that concerned the character of the late minister, he took every measure which he thought conducive to the honour and interest of the nation. He directed the earl of Bristol, his ambassador at Madrid, to demand an explanation of the secret treaty which had been lately ratified between the two monarchs of France and Spain; and to declare that a refusal of this satisfaction would be considered as a denunciation of hostilities: in the mean time he exerted himself in making preparations suitable to that event.

A plan for the conquest of Martinico was already formed. In the month of October, rear-admiral Rodney sailed from England with a squadron of ships, having under convoy a number of transports, with four battalions from Belleisle, to join at Barbadoes a strong body of forces from North America, together with some regiments and volunteers from Guadalupe and the Leeward Islands, and proceed, in conjunction with the fleet already on that station, to the execution of the projected invasion. This was doubtless an object of great importance, and might have been easily accomplished in the first attempt under the conduct of general Hopson; but now

174 *The History of* ENGLAND.

the enterprize was attended by many difficulties. The island was strengthened with new fortifications, a strong body of troops, a numerous regulated militia, experienced officers, and plenty of provision, artillery, and ammunition.

On the third day of November the new parliament was opened at Westminster; and, as no ministerial influence had been used in electing the members of which it was composed, it undoubtedly deserved, if ever any did, the appellation of a free parliament. The king being seated on the throne commanded the attendance of the commons; to whom he signified his pleasure, by the mouth of the lord high chancellor, that they should return to their house, and chuse a new speaker. Accordingly their unanimous choice fell upon Sir John Culpeper, baronet, a gentleman of extensive knowledge and distinguished probity, qualified in all respects to supply the room of Mr. Osborn, who so long and so worthily discharged that important office. His majesty, repairing again to the house of peers on the sixth, approved of the speaker, and addressed the parliament in the following terms:

“ My lords and gentlemen,

“ At the opening of the first parliament, summoned and elected under my authority,

I with pleasure take notice of an event, which has made me complatly happy, and given universal joy to my loving subjects. My marriage with a princeis, eminently distinguished by every virtue, and amiable endowment, whilst it affords me all possible domestic comfort, cannot but highly contribute to the happiness of my kingdoms; which has been, and always shall be, my first object in every action of my life.

“ It has been my earnest wish, that this first period of my reign might be marked with another felicity; the restoring the blessings of peace to my people, and putting an end to the calamities of war, under which so great a part of Europe suffers. But though overtures were made to me, and my good brother and ally the king of Prussia, by the several belligerent powers, in order to a general pacification, for which purpose a congress was appointed; and propositions were made to me by France, for a particular peace with that crown, which were followed by an actual negotiation; yet that congress hath not hitherto taken place, and the negotiation with France is entirely broken off.

“ The sincerity of my disposition to effectuate this good work has been manifested in the progress of it; and I have the consolation

176. *The History of ENGLAND.*

lation to reflect, that the continuance of the war, and the farther effusion of Christian blood, to which it was the desire of my heart to put a stop, cannot with justice be imputed to me.

“ Our military operations have been in no degree suspended or delayed ; and it has pleased God to grant us farther important successes, by the conquest of the islands of Belleisle and Dominica ; and by the reduction of Pondicherry, which has in a manner annihilated the French power in the East-Indies. In other parts, where the enemy's numbers were greatly superior, their principal designs and projects have been generally disappointed, by a conduct which does the highest honour to the distinguished capacity of my general prince Ferdinand of Brunswic, and by the valour of my troops. The magnanimity and ability of the king of Prussia have eminently appeared in resisting such numerous armies, and surmounting such great difficulties.

“ In this situation, I am glad to have an opportunity of receiving the truest information of the sense of my people, by a new choice of their representatives. I am fully persuaded you will agree with me in opinion, that the steady exertion of our most vigorous efforts, in every part where
the

the enemy may still be attacked with advantage, is the only means that can be productive of such a peace, as may with reason be expected from our successes. It is therefore my fixed resolution, with your concurrence and support, to carry on the war, in the most effectual manner, for the interests and advantage of my kingdoms; and to maintain, to the utmost of my power, the good faith and honour of my crown, by adhering firmly to the engagements entered into with my allies. In this I will persevere, untill my enemies, moved by their own losses and distresses, and touched with the miseries of so many nations, shall yield to the equitable conditions of an honourable peace; in which case, as well as in the prosecution of the war, I do assure you, no consideration whatever shall make me depart from the true interests of these my kingdoms, and the honour and dignity of my crown.

“Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“I am heartily sorry, that the necessity of large supplies appears so clearly from what has already been mentioned. The proper estimates for the services of the ensuing year shall be laid before you; and I
desire

178 *The History of ENGLAND.*

desire you to grant me such supplies, as may enable me to prosecute the war with vigour, and as your own welfare and security, in the present critical conjuncture, require, that we may happily put the last hand to this great work. Whatsoever you give shall be duly and faithfully applied.

“ I dare say your affectionate regard for me and the queen makes you go before me in what I am next to mention ; the making an adequate and honourable provision for her support, in case she should survive me. This is what not only her royal dignity, but her own merit calls for ; and I earnestly recommend it to your consideration.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen.

“ I have such a confidence in the zeal and good affections of this parliament, that I think it quite superfluous to use any exhortations to excite you to a right conduct. I will only add, that there never was a situation in which unanimity, firmness, and dispatch were more necessary for the safety, honour, and true interest of Great Britain.”

These expressions of confidence and esteem, which flowed from the heart of a patriot king, met with the most cordial returns

turns of gratitude and affection. The two houses unanimously resolved to address their sovereign in the warmest terms of zeal and attachment. The commons, having thanked him for his most gracious speech from the throne, presented their congratulations on the joyful and auspicious event of his nuptials, with a princess descended from an illustrious protestant line, distinguished by the most eminent graces and endowments, and worthy to be the partner of a throne, by possessing every virtue by which it could be adorned. They expressed their deep sense of the affectionate regard which he had for his people, by consulting, on this important and interesting occasion, as on every other, the happiness of them and their posterity. They assured him, that with hearts full of gratitude for this signal instance of his royal attention to the welfare of his subjects, and thoroughly sensible of the exalted merit of his illustrious consort, his faithful commons would not fail to make such honourable and ample provision as might enable her to support her royal dignity with proper lustre, in case she should survive his majesty; for the long continuance of whose life they should offer up their most ardent vows to Providence, without ceasing. They thanked his majesty for
hav-

having manifested his concern for the prosperity of his people, in wishing to restore to them the blessings of peace. They expressed their admiration of that humanity so becoming the royal breast, which, amidst the successes of his own kingdoms, felt for the calamities of other nations. They professed themselves fully persuaded, that those beneficent dispositions, which induced his majesty to propose a congress for a general pacification, and to enter into a negociation with France for a particular peace, could not have failed of the desired effect, if the enemy, influenced by the same motives, had shewn the same good intentions. and would have complied with such conditions as were requisite for the accomplishment of that salutary work. They testified the most grateful acknowledgment of his majesty's vigilance and firmness, in not suffering the hopes and expectations of peace to produce the least suspense or relaxation in the exertion of his arms; and congratulated his majesty on those happy successes, which, under the good providence of God, they ascribed to the wisdom and vigour of his majesty's measures; to which they owed the reduction of Dominica, the conquest of Belleisle, atchieved with so much reputation to the British arms, and the destruction of
the

the enemy's power in the East Indies, by the acquisition of Pondicherry, their last remaining settlement of any strength in those countries. They observed, that the wise and able conduct of his serene highness prince Ferdinand of Brunswic, whereby he had successively defeated the projects of the enemy, and prevented their making that progress, which, from their superior numbers, they expected; together with that gracious approbation which his majesty had been pleased to express of the valour of his troops; could not but give the highest satisfaction to his faithful commons. They said, they saw with just admiration repeated proofs, in every campaign, of that unshaken resolution, and of those astonishing efforts, which alone could have enabled his majesty's great ally, the king of Prussia, to resist the numerous forces of his enemies. They assured him, he might depend upon their intire concurrence and support, in the most effectual prosecution of the war, for the interest and advantage of Great Britain; and in maintaining, to the utmost of their power, the good faith and honour of his majesty's crown, and the engagements entered into with his allies: and they declared themselves truly sensible, that the constant care and attention of his majesty to pursue

182 *The History of* ENGLAND.

the most vigorous measures, in every part, where any successful impression could still be made upon the enemy, were the only means to attain that desirable object, an honourable and lasting peace. They acknowledged, with the deepest gratitude, that most endearing expression of his majesty's unbounded goodness and affection towards his native country, in the solemn declaration which he had been pleased to make, that, as well in the prosecution of the war as in the conclusion of the peace, no consideration whatever should induce him to depart from the true interests of his kingdoms, and from the honour and dignity of his crown. They assured his majesty, that his faithful commons would cheerfully grant such supplies as the nature and extent of the several services should be found to require, firmly relying on his majesty's wisdom and justice, that they would be applied with the strictest œconomy, and in such a manner as might most effectually answer the great ends, for which they should be granted. They expressed their earnest desires, that this first parliament, convened by his authority, might, by their conduct, give his majesty a happy proof of the zeal, the loyalty, and the affection of his people. They concluded with saying, that, sensible of the

difficult

difficult crisis in which they were assembled, they were determined to concur with the greatest firmness and unanimity, in whatever might contribute to the public welfare, might tend to defeat the views and expectations of their enemies, and convince the world, that there were no difficulties which his majesty's wisdom and perseverance, with the assistance of his parliament, could not surmount.

Besides this affectionate address to his majesty, a message was sent by the commons to congratulate the queen upon her royal nuptials; to express the unfeigned joy and satisfaction, which the house felt, upon seeing the most ardent wishes of a faithful people, anxious not only for the present and future welfare of these kingdoms, but also for the immediate and domestic happiness of their excellent sovereign, so compleatly crowned by his majesty's wise and happy choice of the royal partner of his throne; and to assure her majesty of the most dutiful and zealous attachment of the commons.

As a great clamour had been raised against the compelling clause in the act, passed during the last session, for the relief of insolvent debtors, this was a circumstance which, previous to all other legislative measures,

184 *The History of* ENGLAND.

tures, attracted the attention of the commons. The house was moved that the clause might be repealed; and leave being given to bring in a bill for that purpose, it soon obtained the sanction of the royal authority. That several frauds and abuses were committed in consequence of this clause cannot be denied; but whether, under proper restrictions, it might not have been rendered a salutary regulation, in favour of industry and commerce, is at least disputable. Certain it is, great numbers of people, who were ruined in consequence of this privilege claimed by their debtors, thought themselves cruelly treated, in being precluded from the same advantage. The house of commons, in order to manifest the warmth of their attachment to their sovereign, proceeded to take into consideration that part of his speech relating to his royal consort. They resolved, that, in case she should survive his majesty, she should enjoy a provision of one hundred thousand pounds per annum during her life, together with the palace of Somerset-house, and the lodge and lands at Richmond old Park: that the king should be enabled to charge that annuity upon all or any part of such of the revenues, as, by an act made in the last session for the support of his majesty's household,

household, were directed to be, during the king's life, consolidated with the aggregate fund, and should be subsisting after his majesty's demise; and to charge all or any part of the aggregate fund, as a collateral security for making good the said annuity. A bill framed on these resolutions passed both houses without opposition, and received the royal assent on the second day of December; when the speaker addressed his majesty in a formal speech, couched in terms of the warmest affection.

Their next care was to examine the estimates, and settle the supply. They granted three millions six hundred and forty thousand pounds for the maintenance of seventy thousand seamen for the ensuing year, including nineteen thousand and sixty one marines. They voted one million six hundred twenty-nine thousand pounds eighteen shillings and one penny, for defraying the charge of sixty seven thousand six hundred and seventy six men for the land service, comprehending four thousand and eight invalids. They allotted eight hundred seventy three thousand seven hundred and eighty pounds eighteen shillings and seven pence for maintaining his majesty's forces and garrisons in the plantations, Gibraltar, Guadalupe, Africa, and the East Indies,

186 *The History of ENGLAND.*

and for provisions for the garrisons in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, Providence, Quebec, Guadalupe, Senegal, and Goree. They assigned twenty three thousand two hundred eighty four pounds and six pence, for defraying the charge of four regiments of foot, on the Irish establishment, serving in North America. They granted three hundred forty-three thousand seven hundred fifty-four pounds twelve shillings and six-pence, for augmenting his majesty's forces. They provided seventy-two thousand eight hundred ninety-six pounds fourteen shillings and two-pence, for the pay of the general, and general staff officers, and officers of the hospitals, for the land forces. They granted two hundred ninety-nine thousand one hundred sixty-one pounds four shillings and four pence, for defraying the extraordinary expence of the services performed by the office of Ordnance for the land-service, and not provided for by parliament in the last session. For the ordinary of the navy, including half-pay to sea officers, two hundred seventy-two thousand two hundred twenty-six pounds nine shillings and one penny were allotted. For completing the chapel, for the use of the hospital for sick and wounded seamen, at Haslar near Gosport, and such other works as might be

be afterwards found necessary one thousand pounds were given. Six thousand pounds were granted for completing the works of the hospital for sick and wounded seamen, building near Plymouth; two hundred thousand pounds towards the building, rebuilding, and repairing of his majesty's ships; and one million towards discharging the debts of the navy. They voted eight hundred thirty-five thousand twenty-five pounds three shillings and eight pence, for the charge of transport service; and one million five hundred thousand pounds to enable his majesty to pay off the exchequer-bills, made out by virtue of an act of last session, and charged upon the first aids and supplies, to be granted in this session of parliament. They granted four hundred sixty-five thousand six hundred thirty-eight pounds sixteen shillings and two-pence three farthings, to defray the charge of thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-three men of the troops of Hanover, Wolfenbuttle, Saxe-Gotha, and the count of Buckeburg, together with that of general and staff-officers, actually employed against the common enemy, in concert with the king of Prussia. They gave two hundred sixty-eight thousand three hundred and sixty pounds

188 *The History of* ENGLAND.

pounds eight shillings and eight pence for defraying the expence of two thousand one hundred and twenty horse, and nine thousand nine hundred foot, being the troops of the landgrave of Hesse Cassel in the pay of Great Britain. They assigned one hundred forty seven thousand seventy-one pounds five shillings and two pence for maintaining an additional body of one thousand five hundred and seventy-six horse, and eight thousand eight hundred and eight foot, belonging to the same potentate, and employed in the same service. They granted sixty-eight thousand eight pounds nine shillings and one penny for defraying the charge of one thousand four hundred and forty-four cavalry, and two thousand three hundred and thirty infantry, the troops of the reigning duke of Brunswick, in the pay of Great-Britain. Twenty-five thousand five hundred and four pounds six shillings and eight pence were given for maintaining a body of five battalions, serving with his majesty's army in Germany; four hundred forty three thousand nine hundred fifty-two pounds ten shillings and ten pence, for defraying the charge of the embodied militia of the several counties in South Britain, and of the fencible men in Argyleshire, and of lord Sutherland's battalion of highlanders in North-

North-Britain; sixty thousand seven hundred and six pounds four shillings and one penny, for defraying the charge of cloathing the embodied militia for the ensuing year; one million towards enabling his majesty to discharge the like sum, raised in pursuance of an act of last session, and charged upon the first aids, or supplies, to be granted in this session of parliament; and another million towards defraying the charges of forage, bread, bread waggons, train of artillery, provisions of wood, straw, and other extraordinary expences and contingencies of his majesty's army, under the command of prince Ferdinand. They voted one million three hundred fifty-three thousand six hundred and sixty two pounds four shillings and one penny for defraying the extraordinary expences of his majesty's land forces, and other services performed before the twenty-fourth day of November, 1761, and not provided for by parliament; two thousand nine hundred fifty two pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, for defraying the charge for allowances to the several officers, and private gentlemen of the two troops of horse guards, and regiments of horse reduced, and to the superannuated gentlemen of the four troops of horse guards for the ensuing year; one thousand eight hun-

190 *The History of ENGLAND.*

hundred and thirty-eight pounds, for the paying of pensions to the widows of such reduced officers of his majesty's land forces and marines as died upon the establishment of half-pay in Great-Britain, and who were married to them before the twenty fifth of December, 1716; thirty four thousand three hundred and eighty-three pounds, upon account of the reduced officers of his majesty's land-forces and marines for the ensuing year; and fifteen thousand pounds and three pence, to be applied towards the improving, widening and enlarging the passage over and through London bridge. They granted one hundred thirty-three thousand three hundred thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight pence, upon account, to enable his majesty to give a proper compensation to the respective provinces in North-America, for the expence incurred by them in the levying, cloathing and paying of the troops, raised by the same, according as the active vigour and strenuous efforts of the respective provinces should be thought by his majesty to merit; twenty thousand pounds to be paid to the East-India company, towards enabling them to defray the expence of a military force in their settlements, to be maintained by them, in lieu of the battalion commanded by general Aldern,

dercorn, withdrawn from thence, and now returned to Ireland; thirteen thousand seven hundred forty-nine pounds ten shillings and five pence upon account, for the out pensioners of Chelsea hospital; five thousand six hundred eighty-four pounds one shilling and ten pence, for maintaining and supporting the civil establishment of Nova-Scotia; four thousand fifty-seven pounds ten shillings, for defraying the charge of the civil establishment of Georgia, and other incidental expences attending the same; thirteen thousand pounds, to be employed in maintaining and supporting the fort of Anamaboo, and other British forts and settlements upon the coast of Africa; fifty-two thousand three hundred ninety-three pounds sixteen shillings and nine pence half-penny, to replace to the sinking fund the like sum paid out of the same, to make good the deficiency, on the fifth of July 1761, of the several rates and duties upon offices and pensions, and upon houses, windows or lights, which were made a fund by an act of the thirty-first of George the second, for paying annuities at the Bank, in respect of five millions borrowed towards the supply for 1758. They allotted ten thousand five and forty pounds, to replace to the sinking fund the like sum, paid out of the same, to make good

good the deficiency, on the fifth of July 1761, of several duties on malt, granted by an act of the thirty third of George the second, to answer annuities, after the rate of four per cent. charged thereupon ; and one hundred and three thousand nine hundred and six pounds, to replace to the sinking fund the like sum, paid out of the same, to make good the deficiency of the additional duty on strong beer and ale, to answer and pay the several annuities of three pounds per cent, and one pound two shillings and six pence per cent, on eleven millions four hundred thousand pounds, part of twelve millions, borrowed towards the supply granted by an act of the first of George the third for 1761. Nine hundred and fifty eight thousand three hundred eighty-four pounds and ten pence were voted for defraying the extraordinary expences of his majesty's land-forces, and other services incurred, from the twenty-fourth of December 1761, to the twenty-fourth of December following, and not provided for by parliament ; forty one thousand seven hundred fifty two pounds and ten shillings, towards enabling the governors and guardians of the Foundling Hospital to maintain and educate such children as were received thereinto, on, or before, the twenty fifth
of

of March 1760; two thousand pounds, towards enabling the trustees of the British Museum to carry on the execution of the trust reposed in them by parliament; five thousand pounds, to be applied towards new paving the squares and streets of the city and liberty of Westminster; twenty thousand pounds towards defraying the charge of the pay of the militia of England when unembodied, and for the cloathing of part of the said now unembodied, for one year, beginning the twenty-fifth day of March 1762; four thousand pounds, towards defraying the expence of building a bridge over the river Tweed; fifty thousand pounds, towards assisting his majesty to grant a reasonable succour to the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, pursuant to treaty; one hundred and twelve thousand six hundred and thirteen pounds five shillings and five pence farthing, to make good the deficiency of the grants 1761; one million, to enable his majesty to defray the extraordinary expences of the war, incurred, or to be incurred, for the service of 1762, and to assist the king of Portugal, an ancient and natural ally of his majesty's crown, and to take all such measures as may be necessary to disappoint and defeat any enterprizes, or designs of his enemies, against his ma-

VOL. XLVIII. R jesty,

jesty, or his allies, and as the exigencies of affairs may require ; and one thousand five hundred pounds towards defraying the expence of printing the journals of the house of commons, from the beginning of the ninth parliament of Great Britain to the end of the last session. In a word, the whole of the supplies granted in this session amounted to eighteen millions, two hundred twenty-nine thousand, one hundred fifty-three pounds eighteen shillings and eleven pence half-penny.

In establishing the funds for raising this sum, besides the standing revenue of the nation, consisting of the land-tax and malt-tax, and the other impositions already laid for raising the interest of the public debt, it was found necessary to borrow twelve millions * on remote funds for the service
of

* The sum of twelve millions was raised in the following manner. Every contributor, for every hundred pounds contributed, was intitled to an annuity, transferable at the bank of England, after the rate of four per centum per annum for nineteen years ; and then to stand reduced to three per centum per annum, redeemable by parliament ; and also to an annuity, transferable at the bank of England, of one pound per centum, to continue irredeemable for a certain term of ninety-eight years, and then to cease ; the said annuities of four pounds per centum, and one pound per centum

of the year; and this step was taken accordingly.

R 2

The

centum, to be charged upon the sinking fund, to commence from the fifth day of January next ensuing, and to be payable half-yearly on the fifth day of July, and the fifth day of January, in every year; and that the said four per centum annuities should be added to, and made one joint stock of transferable four per centum annuities at the bank of England, with such other four per centum annuities, transferable at the bank of England, as should, by any act of this present session of parliament, be charged upon and made payable out of the sinking fund; and that every contributor should, for every sum of eighty pounds per centum, payed into the cashiers of the bank of England, upon account of his share in the said annuities, after the rate of four per centum per annum, be intitled to one hundred pounds capital in the said stock of four pounds per centum annuities; and for every sum of twenty pounds paid in like manner, upon account of his share in the said annuities of one pound per centum, should be intitled to an annuity of one pound, to continue for a certain term of ninety-eight years, in manner above-mentioned. It was resolved, that every contributor should, on or before the 23d of this instant December, make a deposit, with the cashiers of the bank of England, of fifteen pounds per centum, on such part of the sum or sums to be contributed by him, towards the said sum of twelve millions, as should be payable, in respect of his share in the said four per centum annuities; and also a deposit of fifteen per centum, on such part of the sum or sums so to be contributed, as should be payable in respect of his share in the said one per centum annuities, as a security for his

196 *The History of ENGLAND.*

The funds allotted for paying the interest of this loan, consisted of an additional tax upon windows, including all dwelling-houses which had eight lights or upwards; and of farther additional duties on spirituous liquors. These were made part of the sinking fund, on which the annuities were charged. Every window in a dwelling-house containing eight or nine windows, and no more, was taxed at the yearly rate of one shilling: in a house lighted with ten or eleven windows, and no more, every light was taxed at six-pence, over and above all other duties: where the number amounted to more than fourteen, each payed an additional duty of one shilling; and where they did not exceed nineteen, every window

his making the future payments, respectively, on or before the times limited for that purpose.

It was also resolved, that every contributor, who should pay in the whole of his contribution, on account of his share in the said four per centum annuities, at any time on or before the thirteenth day of May next, should be allowed a discount, after the rate of three per centum per annum, on the sum so completing his contribution respectively, to be computed from the day of completing such contribution to the twentieth day of October next, in respect of the sum payed on account of the said four per centum annuities; and to the twenty-first day of July next, in respect of the sum paid on account of the one pound per cent. annuities.

dow was taxed at three pence additional duty*.

R 3

The

* The act relating to an additional duty on spirituous liquors was founded on the following resolutions:—

“ That for every gallon of low wines or spirits of the first extraction, made or drawn in Great-Britain, for home consumption, from any sort of drink or wash brewed, or made from any sort of malt or corn, or from brewer's wash or tilts, or any mixture with such brewer's wash or tilts, there shall be granted and paid to his majesty, one penny, over and above all other duties charged, or chargeable thereon.— That for every gallon of strong waters, or aqua vitæ, made for sale, for home consumption, of the materials aforesaid, there shall be granted, and paid to his majesty, three pence over and above all other duties charged and chargeable thereon, to be paid by the distillers or makers thereof.—That for every gallon of low wines, or spirits of the first extraction, made or drawn for home consumption, from any foreign or imported materials, or any mixture therewith, there shall be granted, and paid to his majesty, three pence, over and above all other duties charged or chargeable thereon, to be paid by the distillers or makers thereof.—That for every gallon of low wines, or spirits of the first extraction, made or drawn, for home consumption, from cyder, or any sort or kind of British materials, except those before mentioned, or any mixture therewith, there shall be granted and paid to his majesty one penny three farthings, over and above all other duties chargeable thereon, to be paid by the distillers or makers thereof.—That for every gallon of spirits made for sale, for home consumption, from cyder or any

198 *The History of ENGLAND.*

The supplies of the year were just provided, when the public attention was called off to an incident of national importance. The king of Great Britain had directed the earl of Bristol, his ambassador at Madrid, to demand of the Spanish ministry an explanation of the late treaty concluded between the kings of France and Spain; and particularly to require a categorical declaration, with respect to the part his Catholic majesty intended to take in the disputes between the courts of London and Versailles. He was enjoined to put these questions with all the delicacy which the nature of the demands could admit, that Spain should have

no
any sort or kind of British materials, except those before-mentioned, there shall be granted and paid to his majesty two-pence over and above all other duties charged or chargeable thereon, to be paid by the distillers or makers thereof.—That for every gallon of single brandy, spirits, or aqua vitæ, imported into Great-Britain from beyond the seas, not being the produce of the British colonies, there be paid by the importer, before landing, sixpence, over and above all other duties charged or chargeable thereon.—That for every gallon of brandy, spirits, or aqua vitæ, above proof, commonly called double brandy, imported into Great-Britain from beyond the seas, not being the produce of the British colonies, there be paid by the importer, before landing, one shilling over and above all other duties charged or chargeable thereon.

no cause to complain that she was not treated with proper decorum. The demands were made accordingly, with all imaginable demonstrations of respect ; but as the answers given appeared evasive and unsatisfactory, he became more peremptory in his remonstrances ; and at length plainly declared, that if the court of Spain should refuse a positive explanation, whether the Catholic king intended to ally himself with France against England, he should interpret the refusal into an aggression and declaration of war, and, in consequence, be obliged to retire from the court of Madrid.

The Spanish monarch had already taken his measures in concert with the court of Versailles, and waited only for an opportunity to provoke Great-Britain into an immediate rupture. In answer therefore to this declaration, Mr. Wall, the Spanish minister, replied, that such a step could only be suggested by that spirit of haughtiness and of discord, which, for the misfortune of mankind, still reigned but too much in the British government ; that it was in that very moment the war was declared, and the king's dignity violently attacked ; and the earl might retire how and when he should think proper. Nothing could be more ridiculous than this pretence for taking

ing umbrage. Had the English minister failed in point of punctilio, and made an abrupt demand, unauthorized by the law of nations, the court of Madrid might have resented his personal behaviour, and complained of it by their ambassador at London; but even in that case, the affront would have appeared, to all the reasonable part of mankind, too frivolous a cause for involving the two nations in the horrors and misery of war: yet even this plea was wanting. The earl of Bristol proceeded with delicacy and caution, and did not insist upon a categorical answer until every milder method had been tried without success. The most extraordinary circumstance attending this rupture was the purport of a paper delivered to the earl of Egremont, who had succeeded Mr. Pitt as secretary of state for the southern department, by the count de Fuentes, the Spanish ambassador at the court of London. It was conceived in the following terms:

“The count de Fuentes, the Catholic king’s ambassador to his Britannic majesty, has just received a courier from his court, by whom he is informed, that my lord Bristol, his Britannic majesty’s ambassador at the court of Madrid, has said to his excellency Mr. Wall, minister of state, that
he

he had orders to demand a positive and categorical answer to this question, viz. "If Spain thinks of allying herself with France against England;" and to declare, at the same time, that he should take a refusal to his demand for an aggression and declaration of war; and that he should, in consequence, be obliged to retire from the court of Spain. The above minister of state answered him, that such a step could only be suggested by the spirit of haughtiness and discord, which, for the misfortune of mankind, still reigns but too much in the British government: that it was in that very moment that the war was declared, and the king's dignity violently attacked, and that he might retire how and when he should think proper.

"The count de Fuentes is, in consequence, ordered to leave the court and the dominions of England; and to declare to the British king, to the English nation, and to the whole universe, that the horrors into which the Spanish and English nations are going to plunge themselves, must be attributed only to the pride, and to the unmeasurable ambition of him who has held the reins of government, and who appears still to hold them, although by another hand: that if his Catholic majesty ex-
cused

cused himself from answering on the treaty in question between his Catholic majesty and his most Christian majesty, which is believed to have been signed the fifteenth of August, and wherein it is pretended, there are conditions relative to England, he had very good reasons: first, the king's dignity required him to manifest his just resentment of the little management, or, to speak more properly, of the insulting manner, with which all the affairs of Spain have been treated during Mr. Pitt's administration, who, finding himself convinced of the injustice, which supported the king in his pretensions, his ordinary and last answer was, That he would not relax in any thing till the Tower of London was taken sword in hand.

“ Besides, his majesty was much shocked to hear the haughty and imperious tone, with which the contents of the treaty were demanded of him: if the respect due to royal majesty had been regarded, explanations might have been had without any difficulty: the ministers of Spain might have said frankly to those of England, what the count de Fuentes, by the king's express order, declares publickly, viz. That the said treaty is only a convention between the family of Bourbon, wherein there is nothing which

which has the least relation to the present war: that there is in it an article for the mutual guaranty of the dominions of the two sovereigns; but it is specified therein, that that guaranty is not to be understood but of the dominions which shall remain to France, after the present war shall be ended; that although his Catholic majesty might have had reason to think himself offended by the irregular manner in which the memorial was returned to M. de Busly, minister of France, which he had presented for terminating the differences of Spain and England, at the same time with the war between this last and France; he has, however, dissembled, and as an instance of his love of peace, caused a memorial to be delivered to my lord Bristol, wherein it is evidently demonstrated, that the step of France, which put the minister Pitt into so bad humour, did not at all offend either the laws of neutrality, or the sincerity of the two sovereigns: that further, as a fresh proof of his pacific spirit, the king of Spain wrote to the king of France, his cousin, that if the union of interest in any manner retarded the peace with England, he consented to separate himself from it, not to put any obstacle to so great a happiness: but it was soon seen that this was only a pretence on
the

the part of the English minister; for that of France continuing his negociation without making any mention of Spain, and proposing conditions very advantageous and honourable for England, the minister Pitt, to the great astonishment of the universe, rejected them with disdain, and shewed at the same time his ill-will against Spain, to the scandal of the same British council; and unfortunately he has succeeded but too far in his pernicious design.

“ This declaration made, the count de Fuentes desires his excellency my lord Egremont to present his most humble respects to his Britannic majesty, and to obtain for him passports, and all other facilities, for him, his family, and all his retinue, to go out of the dominions of Great Britain without any trouble, and to go by the short passage of the sea, which separates them from the continent.”

In answer to this memorial, the earl of Egremont, by his majesty's order, delivered to the count de Fuentes the following declaration.

“ The earl of Egremont, his Britannic majesty's secretary of state, having received from his excellency the count de Fuentes, ambassador of the Catholic king at the court of London, a paper, in which, besides the
noti-

notification of his recall, and the demand of the necessary passports to go out of the king's dominions, he has thought proper to enter into what has just passed between the two courts, with a view to make that of London appear as the source of all the misfortunes which may ensue from the rupture which has happened; in order that nobody may be misled by the declaration, which his excellency has been pleased to make to the king, to the English nation, and to the whole universe; notwithstanding the insinuation, as void of foundation as of decency, of the spirit of haughtiness and of discord, which, his excellency pretends, reigns in the British government, to the misfortune of mankind; and notwithstanding the irregularity and indecency of appealing to the English nation, as if it could be separated from its king, for whom the most determined sentiments, of love, of duty, and of confidence, are engraved in the hearts of all his subjects; the said earl of Egremont, by his majesty's order, laying aside, in this answer, all spirit of declamation and of harshness, avoiding every offensive word, which might hurt the dignity of sovereigns, without stooping to invectives against private persons, will confine himself to facts with the most scrupulous exactness; and

it is from this representation of facts, that he appeals to all Europe, and to the whole universe, for the purity of the king's intentions, and for the sincerity of the wishes his majesty has not ceased to make, as well as for the moderation he has always shewed, though in vain, for the maintenance of friendship and good understanding between the British and Spanish nations.

The king having received undoubted informations, that the court of Madrid had secretly contracted engagements with that of Versailles, which the ministers of France laboured to represent, in all the courts of Europe, as offensive to Great-Britain; and combining these appearances with the step, which the court of Spain had, a little time before, taken towards his majesty, in avowing its consent (though that avowal had been followed by apologies) to the memorial presented the 23d of July, by the fleur de Buffy, minister plenipotentiary of the most Christian king, to the king's secretary of state; and his majesty having afterwards received intelligence, scarce admitting a doubt, of troops marching, and of military preparations making in all the ports of Spain, judged that his dignity as well as his prudence, required him to order his ambassador

at

at the court of Madrid, by a dispatch, dated the 28th of October, to demand, in terms the most measured however, and the most amicable, a communication of the treaty recently concluded between the courts of Madrid and Versailles, or at least of the articles which might relate to the interests of Great-Britain; and, in order to avoid every thing, which could be thought to imply the least slight of the dignity, or even the delicacy, of his Catholic majesty, the earl of Bristol was authorised to content himself with assurances, in case the Catholic king offered to give any, that the said engagements did not contain any thing that was contrary to the friendship which subsisted between the two crowns, or that was prejudicial to the interests of Great-Britain, supposing that any difficulty was made of shewing the treaty. The king could not give a less equivocal proof of his dependance on the good faith of the Catholic king, than in shewing his an unbounded confidence in so important an affair, and which so essentially interested his own dignity, the good of his kingdoms, and the happiness of his people.

“How great then was the king’s surprize, when, instead of receiving the just satisfaction, which he had a right to expect, he learnt from his ambassador, that, having addressed

it is from this representation of facts, that he appeals to all Europe, and to the whole universe, for the purity of the king's intentions, and for the sincerity of the wishes his majesty has not ceased to make, as well as for the moderation he has always shewed, though in vain, for the maintenance of friendship and good understanding between the British and Spanish nations.

"The king having received undoubted informations, that the court of Madrid had secretly contracted engagements with that of Versailles, which the ministers of France laboured to represent, in all the courts of Europe, as offensive to Great-Britain; and combining these appearances with the step, which the court of Spain had, a little time before, taken towards his majesty, in avowing its consent (though that avowal had been followed by apologies) to the memorial presented the 23d of July, by the fleur de Buffy, minister plenipotentiary of the most Christian king, to the king's secretary of state; and his majesty having afterwards received intelligence, scarce admitting a doubt, of troops marching, and of military preparations making in all the ports of Spain, judged that his dignity as well as his prudence, required him to order his ambassador
at

at the court of Madrid, by a dispatch, dated the 28th of October, to demand, in terms the most measured however, and the most amicable, a communication of the treaty recently concluded between the courts of Madrid and Versailles, or at least of the articles which might relate to the interests of Great-Britain; and, in order to avoid every thing, which ~~could~~ be thought to imply the least slight of the dignity, or even the delicacy, of his Catholic majesty, the earl of Bristol was authorised to content himself with assurances, in case the Catholic king offered to give any, that the said engagements did not contain any thing that was contrary to the friendship which subsisted between the two crowns, or that was prejudicial to the interests of Great-Britain, supposing that any difficulty was made of shewing the treaty. The king could not give a less equivocal proof of his dependance on the good faith of the Catholic king, than in shewing his an unbounded confidence in so important an affair, and which so essentially interested his own dignity, the good of his kingdoms, and the happiness of his people.

“How great then was the king’s surprize, when, instead of receiving the just satisfaction, which he had a right to expect, he learnt from his ambassador, that, having addressed

himself to the minister of Spain for that purpose, he could only draw from him a refusal to give a satisfactory answer to his majesty's just requisitions, which he had accompanied with terms that breathed nothing but haughtiness, animosity, and menace; and which seemed so strongly to verify the suspicions of the unamicable disposition of the court of Spain, that nothing less than his majesty's moderation, and his resolution taken to make all the efforts possible to avoid the misfortunes inseparable from a rupture, could determine him to make a last trial, by giving orders to his ambassador to address himself to the minister of Spain, to desire him to inform him of the intentions of the court of Madrid towards that of Great-Britain in this juncture, if they had taken engagements, or formed the design to join the king's enemies in the present war, or to depart, in any manner, from the neutrality they had hitherto observed; and to make that minister sensible, that, if they persisted in refusing all satisfaction to demands so just, so necessary, and so interesting, the king could not but consider such a refusal as the most authentick avowal, that Spain had taken her part, and that there only remained for his majesty to take the measures which his

his royal prudence should dictate for the honour and dignity of his crown, and for the prosperity and protection of his people ; and to recal his ambassador.

“ Unhappily for the public tranquillity, for the interest of the two nations, and for the good of mankind, this last step was as fruitless as the preceding ones ; the Spanish minister keeping no further measures, answered drily, “ That it was in that very moment that the war was declared, and the king’s dignity attacked, and that the earl of Bristol might retire how, and when, he should think proper.”

“ And in order to set in its true light the declaration, “ That, if the respect due to his Catholic majesty had been regarded, explanations might have been had without any difficulty ; and that the ministers of Spain might have said frankly, as monsieur de Fuentes, by the king’s express order, declares publicly, that the said treaty is only a convention between the family of Bourbon ; wherein there is nothing which has the least relation to the present war ; and that the guaranty, which is therein specified, is not to be understood but of the dominions which shall remain to France after the war :” it is declared, that, very far from thinking of being wanting to the respect,

acknowledged to be due to crowned heads, the instructions given to the earl of Bristol have always been to make the requisitions, on the subject of the engagements between the courts of Madrid and Versailles, with all the decency, and all the attention possible; and the demand of a categorical answer was not made till after repeated, and the most stinging refusals to give the least satisfaction, and at the last extremity: therefore, if the court of Spain ever had the design to give this so necessary satisfaction, they had not the least reason, that ought to have engaged them to defer it to the moment, when it could no longer be of use. But, fortunately, the terms, in which the declaration is conceived, spare us the regret of not having received it sooner; for it appears at first sight, that the answer is not at all conformable to the demand: we wanted to be informed, *if the court of Spain intended to join the French, our enemies, to make war on Great Britain, or to depart from their neutrality*: whereas the answer concerns one treaty only, which is said to be of the 15th of August, carefully avoiding to say the least word that could explain, in any manner, the intentions of Spain towards Great-Britain, or the further engagements they may have contracted in the present crisis.

“ After

"After a deduction, as exact as faithful, of what has passed between the two courts, it is left to the impartial public to decide which of the two has always been inclined to peace, and which was determined on war.

"As to the rest, the earl of Egremont has the honour to acquaint his excellency the count ~~de~~ Fuentes, by the king's order, that the necessary passports for him shall be expedited, and that they will not fail to procure him all possible facilities for his passage to the port which he shall think most convenient."

After these mutual remonstrances, no farther measures were to be kept with Spain. The earl of Bristol was recalled: the count de Fuentes retired from England. His Britannic majesty granted a commission, empowering the admiralty to issue letters of marque, and commissions for privateers to act against the subjects of Spain. War was declared in form on the fourth day of January*; and on the nineteenth the king communicated it in a speech to both houses of parliament. He said he had so often assured them of his sincere disposition to put an end to the calamities of war, and to restore

tore the public tranquillity on solid and lasting foundations, that no impartial person, either at home or abroad, could suspect him of unnecessarily kindling a new war in Europe. He acquainted them, that, since their recess, he had found himself indispensibly obliged to declare war against Spain, for the causes specified in his public declaration. He observed, that his own conduct, since his accession to the throne, as well as that of the late king his grandfather, towards Spain, had been so full of good-will and friendship, so averse to the laying hold of several just grounds of complaint, which might have been alledged, and so attentive to the advantages of the Catholic king and his family, that it was matter of the greatest surprize to find that engagements had, in this conjuncture, been entered into between that crown and France; and a treaty made to unite all the branches of the house of Bourbon in the most ambitious and dangerous designs against the commerce and independency of the rest of Europe, and particularly of these kingdoms. He expressed his reliance on the Divine blessing, on the justice of his cause, on the zealous and powerful assistance of his faithful subjects, and the concurrence of his allies, who must find themselves involved in
the

the pernicious and extensive projects of his enemies. He left these considerations with his parliament, full of the justest confidence, that the honour of his crown, and the interests of his kingdoms, were safe in their hands.

This speech being taken into consideration, each house apart presented an address, containing assurances of constant support, conveyed in the most endearing expressions.

End of the FORTY-EIGHTH VOLUME.



